



Boss warns A&E could be hit at worst time of year

# HOSPITAL STAFF SHORTAGE FEARS

Report by Richard Guttridge

**RUSSELLS Hall Hospital could be left facing a staffing crisis this winter after its accident & emergency unit experienced its busiest night on record.**

The Dudley hospital is likely to lose more staff than it takes on over the coming months, according to a top director at the trust running the hospital, which will increase pressure on the crisis-hit emergency unit.

During winter months the number of patients using A&E dramatically increase.

The hospital is currently drafting up an urgent plan to try to deal with serious concerns raised by health watchdog, the Care Quality Commission, including sepsis management.

The neighbouring Royal Wolverhampton Trust has been brought in to help improve the situation.

The gloomy warnings of staff shortages this winter follow the exit of chief nurse Siobhan Jordan last week, which chiefs have denied is linked to a whistleblowing probe.

Dudley Group NHS Trust non-executive director Julian Atkins aired concerns over staffing at a recent board meeting and warned Russells Hall could face 'challenges'.

## Predictions

It was also revealed Russells Hall experienced its busiest night on record during September when a total of 310 people arrived at the emergency department.

A report from the meeting said: "Mr Atkins confirmed that predictions show that the trust will lose more staff than it will recruit over the next six months and this will provide a further challenge to the trust over winter."

Health chiefs said the trust, which runs the hospital, must improve retention of staff and persuade workers from leaving.

The report continued: "The director of HR (human resources) stated that the organisation has to improve its retention of staff."

Plans were also being developed to improve the exit interview process and for staff engagement initiatives.

● Sepsis concern – page 3

## BLACK COUNTRY FLAG ON TOP OF THE WORLD



Former Mayor of Dudley Steve Waltho, right, and sister's partner Martin Morris hold up the Black Country flag

A FORMER mayor of Dudley has travelled to Everest Base Camp – half way up the world's tallest mountain – to raise money for charity and has proudly flown the Black Country flag.

Councillor Steve Waltho jetted off from Dudley to the Himalayas to hike to Everest Base Camp, at 17,600ft above sea level. He embarked on the mission to raise funds and awareness for Mary Stevens Hospice, at

Stourbridge, which serves the Black Country.

The 63-year-old recently completed his mission and raised the Black Country flag. Posting on his Facebook page he said it was 'mission accomplished'. "At 6.45am GMT, my sister's partner Martin Morris and I stood proudly at 17,600ft above sea level at base camp at Everest," he wrote. "I won't underestimate the magnitude of this achievement of two ordinary guys at ages 63 and Martin 55."

He added that both had suffered stomach problems and altitude issues but good teamwork had seen them through.

"We stood proudly holding the Black Country Flag then the Mary Stevens Hospice banner. Been a bit overwhelmed by the kind caring comments on Facebook and the generosity of people and the Givepenny Everest Climb 2018 site is still open." To donate visit [www.givepenny.com/everest-climb-2018](http://www.givepenny.com/everest-climb-2018)

## DEVELOPMENT

### Campaign starts to protect beauty spot

THOUSANDS of people have joined a new online group launched to save Saltwells Nature Reserve from development

More than an acre of land used by families and dog walkers will disappear if developers get permission to build nine four and five-bedroom homes on the former site of Saltwells House in Saltwells Nature Reserve.

Angry locals have started a campaign to try to stop the homes plan and have recently set up a Facebook group called Save Saltwells Nature Reserve, which already has around 4,000 members.

## ACCIDENT

### Cyclist is killed in lorry collision

A CYCLIST from Brierley Hill has died following a collision with a lorry near Kidderminster.

A man, in his 60s, was killed and another cyclist, from Hagley, is being treated in hospital for his injuries after the collision near to the junction of the A449 and Manor Lane near Hartlebury at 11am on Monday.

A 48-year-old man from Halesowen has been arrested on suspicion of causing death by dangerous driving.

## VOLUNTEERS

### Town blooms to take top award

HALESOWEN in Bloom has claimed the national Urban Community Award category for Britain in Bloom 2018 in recognition of the army of green-fingered volunteers which brought Halesowen's gardens to life.

The campaign, run in association with the Royal Horticultural Society, celebrates the work carried out by volunteers, groups and organisations. Judges from RHS praised Halesowen for having the finest quality flowers, hardworking volunteers and a diverse range of greenery.

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**2 CONTENTS**

PETER RHODES	6
LETTERS	7
THEATRE REVIEWS	14
AT YOUR LEISURE	19
BRAIN GYM	21
PROPERTY	24
MOTORING	29 & 30
SPORT	31 & 32
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# Meet RITA made to help stroke patients



Cyril Barratt with stroke co-ordinator Bal Lelli, Simon Terry, Arvinder Hothi, nurse Donna Salt and Paul Bough

PATIENTS recovering from a stroke will receive state-of-the-art therapy in Dudley thanks to a donation of more than £9,000 from former workers at a Wolverhampton tyre factory.

Members of the Goodyear Workers Benevolent Fund were invited to meet staff on the stroke unit at Russells Hall Hospital to see how their donation has made improvements to the unit's therapy room.

The group saw a demonstration of Reminiscence Interactive Therapy and Activities (RITA) software – a form of cognitive therapy which helps patients with dementia and has also proved valuable to support the recovery of stroke patients.

Bal Lelli, stroke co-ordinator for the unit, said: "We understand providing the right environment alongside meaningful activities really makes a difference in enhancing our patients' experience. RITA is much more than just a computer or piece of software – RITA helps brighten our patients' day."

"It can encourage conversation and interaction between patients, their family and staff. We are so grateful for this grant which allows us to have a dedicated RITA on our stroke unit."

The grant also enabled the purchase of two dementia-friendly privacy screens, which make the space less clinical and can help relax patients.

# Increasing menace of organised crime gangs

**A REPORT into crime in Dudley has said there is evidence organised crime gangs are active 'throughout the borough' involved in forced labour, drug dealing and child sexual exploitation.**

The shocking report will be presented to senior councillors at the borough council's cabinet meeting today (Thursday), as part of a draft youth justice plan for the 2018-2019 year.

The report outlines key findings which show that – although the borough remains the safest in the West Midlands – the total recorded crime from October 2016 to September 2017 increased by 15 per cent (2,643 offences) compared to the previous year.

Council officers also report that data from the past five years shows a worryingly increasing trend which is unlikely to stop in the near future.

It also states that eight wards out of 20 account for more than half (52 per cent) of recorded crime in the borough; while a quarter of repeat offenders were responsible for over a half of all detected crime.

## Protect

Council officers warn: "There are strong links to suggest organised crime groups are active throughout the borough involved in forced labour, drug dealing, and child sexual exploitation."

"It is clear that in order to protect the most vulnerable in our community, we need to better understand the circumstances under which these young people are becoming victims of crime."

The plan is part of a submission to the Youth Justice Board for England and Wales which funds local authority youth offending teams to carry out intervention work with youngsters.

Dudley Council receives £360,362 in grants to help run its service, which aims to prevent youngsters committing crime.

## Stan and Ollie stars on the red carpet



Way Out West end – John C Reilly, left, and Steve Coogan attended the Stan and Ollie premiere in London

ACTORS Steve Coogan and John C Reilly both wore kilts on the red carpet to celebrate their roles in the new film Stan & Ollie, which was partly filmed at the Black Country Living Museum in Dudley.

The world premiere for the film, based on the lives of comedy duo Laurel and Hardy in their later years when they toured Britain, was at the closing night gala for the BFI London Film Festival.

The event, held in Leicester Square, saw members of the cast

take to the red carpet alongside the film's director, Jon S Baird, himself a Scot.

Asked about Coogan and Reilly's choice to wear kilts on the red carpet, the director, originally from Aberdeen, first joked it was in his honour, then said: "There's a scene where they go to Scotland and wear these oversized kilts but they thought it would be a nice little touch as well and, as you can see, a good photo opportunity"

Alan Partridge star Coogan and

Reilly, who play Laurel and Hardy respectively, also donned matching bowling hats in the style of the double act, who performed at the Dudley Hippodrome as part of stage tours in 1947 and '52.

Mr Baird said: "Everybody knew what Laurel and Hardy were like on screen and what their personas were like. They're very different off screen."

Stan & Ollies goes on general release across the UK in January.

# Half term fun sessions for children at leisure centres

CHILDREN can take part in lots of activities at Dudley Council-run leisure centres this half term.

The borough's three centres are hosting a busy week of fun between October 27 and November 4.

On October 30 and November 1, there will be two full days of junior Activezone activities at Dudley Leisure, suitable for youngsters aged eight to 12-years-old. Running between 9am and 4pm, activities will include multi-skills, football, basketball, rounders, crafts and swimming. It costs £20 per day.

At Halesowen Leisure Centre, juniors can take advantage of the £7 for seven days offer to receive unlimited access between 9am and 5pm every day.

A fun float pool session, suitable for all ages, will be running in both pools at Halesowen on October 30 and November 1. They will take place between 1.30pm and 3pm and costs £4.30 for adults and £2.80 for under 16s.

Juniors under the age of 16 can also receive a 50 per cent discount off the full adult price on a no booking advance basis for court sports. Equipment is provided.

Youngsters can take part in fun and games at Stourbridge's Crystal Leisure Centre too. The swimming pool, complete with slides, waves, bubble seat and rapids is open between 9am and 6pm Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm Saturdays and 9am to 6pm on Sundays. There will also be a bondi-beat water disco with a live DJ on Friday, November 2, between 3.30pm and 6pm.

Inclusive Activezone sessions, for children with learning or physical disabilities, will take place on November 1. Sessions run between 10am and 12pm for five to eight-year-olds, and from 1pm to 4pm for eight to 16-year-olds. Book by calling 07970 259921.

There will also be Halloween crafts for children aged between five and 11, on October 30 from 11am. £5 per child.

## NHS car park fees bringing in £11m

HOSPITAL trusts in the West Midlands made more than £11 million from parking charges and fines last year, figures have revealed.

Figures released by the NHS show the five trusts covering the Black Country and Staffordshire raked in nearly £3.4m from staff and a further £8.2m from patients and visitors in 2017-18.

The Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust's parking fees brought in £1.5m.

A spokeswoman for NHS Improvement said income generated from the charges was used to pay the costs of providing parking, while excess funds were put into clinical services.

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# Concern over sepsis awareness at hospital

STAFF at Russells Hall Hospital were 'frustrated' they had been ordered to focus on a potentially deadly infection, inspectors found.

The Care Quality Commission (CQC) said that some staff at the emergency department in Russells Hall Hospital – including senior doctors and nurses – 'did not understand sepsis'.

Some staff were unable to describe the signs of the infection when asked by inspectors. Without prompt treatment, sepsis can lead to multiple organ failure and death.

CQC staff observed a patient who had signs of infection waiting for 11 hours before being put on antibiotics.

Previous inspections had highlighted concerns over whether staff were identifying patients with the condition effectively.

As a result of the latest unannounced inspection, the CQC said it was forced to take further enforcement action against Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust.

Its latest inspection report states: "Some patients with suspected sepsis were still not being identified or managed appropriately."

"Staff continued to be frustrated at the focus on sepsis and did not fully engage with the need to assess for sepsis."

Following the inspection in August, the CQC has placed an 'urgent condition' on the trust's registration.

Diane Wake, chief executive of the trust, last month revealed that staff in A&E at Dudley had been re-trained in how to spot signs of sepsis and how to manage patients with the condition.

# Strictly Damy duo fly to the top

DUDLEY-BASED professional dancer Amy Dowden and her celebrity partner Danny John-Jules achieved the first ten of this Strictly Come Dancing series on Saturday night.

Team Damy, as they have become known on social media, dazzled the judges including special guest Alfonso Ribeiro with their action-packed jive routine, earning a score of ten from judge Dame Darcey Bussell.

The overall score of their aviator themed routine to Flip Flop and Fly came to 37, placing them at the top of the scoreboard on week five and getting the comment "That was extraordinary" from Dame Darcey. Amy and Red Dwarf star Danny will be taking part in Saturday's Halloween special.

Caerphilly-born Amy runs the Art in Motion Dance Academy in Dudley with partner Ben Jones

# Moonwalk master can make you feel good

THE brains behind the iconic Moonwalk and the 'lean' made famous by King of Pop Michael Jackson is set to reveal his industry secrets to a Black Country audience.

Performer Jeffrey Daniel, who was MTV's first street dance choreographer and a member of hit-making group Shalamar, visit Halesowen after linking-up with Next Level Dance Academy.

The 63-year-old sold 25 million records with soul group Shalamar, whose hits included A Night to Remember, There It Is, and I Can Make You Feel Good. But he also earns a place in pop history as the man who taught Jackson the Moonwalk and invented the extreme lean for his Smooth Criminal music video.

Charlie Jones, co-owner of the Manor Lane dance school, said: "It's

brilliant for our dance school and the surrounding area. A lot of the parents are excited about him coming. I think they're big fans. It's going to be inspiring. The children are all interested in dance and some of them want to have a career in the industry."

Daniel, who co-choreographed the Smooth Criminal and Bad videos, will host two 90-minute dance master classes and a 30-minute question and

answer session when he drops by at Haden Hill Leisure Centre on December 2.

It will be the second time dancers at the school, which launched four years ago, have been treated to a special visit from dance heroes after Ashley Banjo, leader of dance troupe Diversity, visited for a one-off workshop.

Tickets are £30, email nextleveldance@sky.com for details.

# Jobless figures on the increase in borough

Report by John Corser

**THE number of people claiming unemployment-related benefits in Dudley has shot up 28 per cent in the last year.**

It comes despite a drop in unemployment across the West Midlands as a whole.

The claimants total in Dudley stood at 7,570 last month – 3.9 per cent of the working population – and up by 25 from August. Over the year the total has grown by 1,640.

Among the 18 to 24-year-old age group claimants in the borough have risen 295 – 23 per cent – to 1,600.

The rise has been partly put down to the controversial Universal Credit system being rolled out in the borough. It replaces six benefits with one monthly payment but has come in for heavy criticism for leaving claimants worse off.

Unemployment across the whole West Midlands region fell by 2,000 to 139,000 in the three months to August, part of a nationwide jobless fall of 47,000 to 1.36 million. Over the year the unemployment level is down 10,000.

## Recruitment

Gerry Lyng, partnership manager for the Department for Work and Pensions in the Black Country, said that recruitment for major construction projects being led by the West Midlands Combined Authority was likely to see more employment and an increased demand for training.

JobCentre Plus is also working with Auctus Management Group to recruit for staff for the Midland Metro.

Claimant numbers in South Staffordshire, including Kinver and Himley, saw a rise of 15 to 970.

Meanwhile the number of women at work in the West Midlands is at a near record high of 1.29 million.

## Look forward to early Christmas CHAOS



Salli Gage, Richard Cope, Adam Compton and Liz Compton who are in CHAOS' version of White Christmas

THEATRE performers are in the festive spirit for their latest show and are already dreaming of a white Christmas! Members of CHAOS – Cradley Heath Amateur Operatic Society – will be staging their version of Irving Berlin's classic musical White Christmas next month.

The show at Stourbridge Town Hall will be staged from November 13 to 17. As well as the famous title song White Christmas also features the popular songs Sisters, Blue Skies, Count Your Blessings (Instead of Sheep) and How Deep is the Ocean?

The production is based on the classic 1954 movie which stars Bing Crosby, Danny Kaye, Rosemary

Clooney, and Vera-Ellen. It is a romantic comedy about showbiz pals planning a Christmas entertainment.

CHAOS spokesman Paul Murdock said: "We promise an enjoyable evening's entertainment with a festive family feeling of award-winning standards from the longest-established amateur operatic society in the whole of the Black Country and the performing talents of the area. Let's make CHAOS' White Christmas just like the ones we used to know."

Tickets costing £14 and £17 can be bought from the box office on 0121 5857380 or any member of the society. Performances include a Saturday matinee.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

## Knife or your life, police tell teens

YOUNGSTERS in the West Midlands will be shown 'the story of a stabbing' as part of a police campaign to warn against the dangers of knife crime.

Police say the 'hard-hitting' advert will air on download sites alongside grime and drill music tracks. It will feature real paramedics and police officers and will show a dramatisation of a stabbing and its aftermath.

The clip is part of the force's #life-or-knife campaign, which has been brought in following a spate of fatal stabbings across the region, including two recently in the Black Country.

The campaign will also see police officers and PCSOs talking to school pupils about knife crime.

## Tom rocking at top exam result

A STUDENT is celebrating after receiving the second highest grade in the entire country for his geology AS Level. Tom Parker, aged 18, is studying A Levels in geology, biology and chemistry at Halesowen College.

The college received a letter from the exam board, OCR, to say Tom had achieved the second highest mark nationally.

Tom, who lives in Kingswinford and was a former pupil at Summerhill School, said: "I wasn't sure how the exam had gone and I didn't think I had done as well as I had."

## Spooky goings on for shoppers

CHILDREN and grown-ups are invited to take part in a special trick-or-treat trail at a shopping centre.

Five 'spook stations' will appear inside the intu Merry Hill centre between noon and 5pm for Halloween, October 31. Each will see families receive sweet treats from creepy characters, including witches, wizards and phantoms. A Day of the Dead (Dia de los Muertos), parade will also come to life at 4pm. The event is available to new and existing members of intu's family club. Visit customer services on the lower mall to sign up.

## Arts group receive £2k from Postcode Lottery

RIVERSIDE House in Stourbridge has received a grant of £2,000 from the Postcode Lottery.

Stourbridge MP Margot James said: "I am delighted to hear that the Riverside House has received a substantial grant. It provides a wonderful environment for my constituents to engage in practical skills. It hosts a number of artistic events that engage the community. The money will help them continue their excellent work."

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## Fingerprinting the suspects 'on move'

POLICE officers will be able to fingerprint suspects 'on the move' after hundreds of new mobile fingerprint devices were brought in.

West Midlands Police has invested in 657 of the machines, which enable people's details to be checked on the streets.

Bosses say the move will save the force time and money, while also enabling officers to spend more time 'fighting crime'.

The force has spent £262,000 on the devices, which will initially be used by force response teams, operations officers and neighbourhood policing teams.

## Medics want more social care funding

PATIENTS will be left 'stranded' in hospitals and GP waiting rooms unless more money is found for social care, leading medics have warned.

In a letter to the Chancellor ahead of the budget, leading British health-care groups warned that more money needs to be ploughed into social care and public health services.

Without investment, "consequent demand on NHS services will not be manageable", according to the letter. The authors said the funding gap in social care services, estimated to be £3.5 billion by 2025 for adult care services in England alone, needs to be plugged as "a matter of urgency".

## Children witness animal cruelty

MORE than a fifth of schoolchildren in the West Midlands have witnessed animal cruelty and neglect on social media, the RSPCA has revealed.

The charity said it was seeing nearly 5,000 such incidents reported each year. More than 400 have been reported in the West Midlands in 2016, 2017 and the first six months of 2018, and 238 in Staffordshire.

In response, the charity is launching its biggest ever education and prevention programme aimed at children.

## Lower interest rates help first-time buyers

FIRST-TIME buyers are driving the housing market with the number of mortgages handed out to this sector reaching its highest levels in over a year in August, lenders have reported.

There were 35,500 new first-time buyer mortgages completed in August, two per cent more than in the same month a year earlier, trade association UK Finance said. Experts put this down to low interest rates

# Spy car leads to 444 parking fines

NEARLY 450 parents have been slapped with fines after being caught by a spy car introduced just over a year ago to crack down on poor parking outside schools in Dudley borough.

Parents are still being caught by the vehicle, which was introduced in September 2017, with more than £15,000 paid in fines in its first year.

The Dudley Council camera vehicle has been on the streets looking for evidence of bad parking outside schools with parents facing fines of up to £70. Parents have paid out £15,358 in fines to date with 444 penalty charges dished out between September 1 2017 and October 12, 2018.

Councillor Khurshid Ahmed, the council's cabinet member for environmental services, said the

vehicles was being used because the council took the safety of children around schools 'extremely seriously'.

The vehicle was introduced by Dudley Council at the start of the school term in September 2017 in a bid to improve children's safety. The move had followed complaints about problem parking outside school gates.

The camera only starts rolling when a vehicle has driven over yellow zig-zag warning lines. Once the car leaves the area the camera stops rolling. Council officers are then tasked with looking through the video footage.

Councillor Ahmed said: "The zig-zag lines are there to protect our children, so they can see and

be seen when going to and from school. Fortunately most drivers do park responsibly near the school gates, but there are still some who continue to park illegally, putting the lives of children at risk. The council will continue to use the CCTV vehicle on streets around schools to ensure our children stay safe."

Most fines involved Church Road, Coseley, outside Christ Church Primary, followed by Hillcrest Road, in Dudley, near to St Joseph's Primary. Fines were also handed out for poor parking near Nether-ton Primary School, Castle High School and Blowers Green Primary School.

The scheme is self-financing with any surplus from fines ring-fenced for road safety measures.

# 'Social problems' taking police time, says Blair

BRITAIN'S broken criminal justice system meant that police were having to deal with 'social problems' rather than fighting crime, said former Prime Minister Tony Blair during a visit to Dudley.

The former Labour leader met with officers at West Midlands Police Station in Brierley Hill to discuss the region's crime epidemic during Friday's visit at the invitation of Dudley North MP Ian Austin. He also spoke with students at Dudley College's Advance Campus.

He was guest at a round table event chaired by Chief Superintendent Sally Bournier, that also featured Police and Crime Commissioner David Jamieson, neighbourhood officers and Police Community Support Officers.

Following the meeting, Mr Blair - who had pledged to be 'tough on crime and on the causes of crime' when he was in power - said: "I'm really interested - and concerned - in the fact that crime is back now as a really important issue."

"Crime is growing, violent crime particularly the way these organised gangs are operating."

"The officers are doing a fantastic job, but the truth is their numbers have been cut pretty savagely."

### Knives

"And its not just their resources that have been cut but the basic social infrastructure to deal with some of the problems that people have, so a lot of the problems for police out on the street at the moment are problems they really shouldn't be dealing with. They are almost dealing with social issues when they have got to be fighting crime."

"Gang members of a young age carrying knives and weapons. This is a sort of criminality that, unless you have the resources, is very hard for police to deal with, even though they are doing the best they possibly can do in exceptionally difficult circumstances."

Talking to students at Dudley College, Mr Blair said it was vital to invest in foreign aid to curb terrorism and to halt the mass migration that had resulted from the rise of terror groups.

When PM Mr Blair introduced the policy of spending 0.7 per cent of gross domestic product on foreign aid, which now sees more than £13 billion going abroad.



Mr Blair and Ian Austin with Commissioner David Jamieson and Chief Superintendent Sally Bournier



Former PM Tony Blair meets Dudley students



Dudley College chief Lowell Williams with Mr Blair

# Murder rate at a 10-year high across the region

THE murder rate in the West Midlands is at its highest in 10 years as latest figures show violent crime continues to soar.

The Office for National Statistics (ONS) said there were 79 murders in the wider region in the year to June 2018 - up 30 per cent from the previous year.

West Midlands Police (WMP) dealt with 42 killings and there were 10 murders in the area covered by Staffordshire Police.

The figures also show the full extent of the region's knife crime epidemic, which Wolverhampton South East MP Pat McFadden branded 'among the biggest crises facing the country'.

Over the period there were 4,327 incidents involving blades, including 35 murders, 59 cases of attempted murder, 209 threats to kill and 1,907 serious assaults.

Overall, total recorded crime has rocketed by seven per cent in the West Midlands, with a 10 per cent spike in the WMP area and a five per cent rise in Staffordshire.

### Robbery

WMP dealt with a 21 per cent increase in violent crime, a 16 per cent rise in weapons possession, a 23 per cent increase in sexual offences and a 22 per cent spike in robbery.

In Staffordshire there were huge rises in robbery and weapons possession offences with respective spikes of 30 per cent and 29 per cent.

The figures come as WMP Chief Constable Dave Thompson revealed the force may have to get rid of up to 500 officers due to Government changes in pension contributions.

# Slam Dunk drops out of Midlands

POPULAR alternative music festival Slam Dunk will not return to the Midlands next year.

The event has been hosted at Birmingham NEC since 2016, following a move from Wolverhampton Civic Hall where it had been held since 2013.

In a statement on the festival's Facebook page, organisers state: "Going forward, we have two large outdoor sites where we have much more flexibility to deliver what you want. This means we are unable to run a third day, so Slam Dunk Festival Midlands will not be happening in 2019".

To cater for Midlands fans, the festival has teamed up with travel company Big Green Coach Company to offer transportation to the Leeds and Hatfield concerts from Birmingham.

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# Speeding motorist crashed into a parked police vehicle

A SPEEDING motorist, who careered into a police car when travelling at more than doubling the limit in a stolen car, has been spared an immediate jail sentence.

Luke McGuire drove at up to 70mph in a 30 limit while pursuing police had to reach 89mph when trying to keep up with him, Wolverhampton Crown Court heard.

The chase started after the unemployed 25-year-old ignored an order by officers to stop and accelerated away along Clappgate Lane in Halesowen. He carried on through Carters Lane and Spies Lane before crashing into the back of a parked police car that had nothing to do with the pursuit.

The police officers of that vehicle had been supervising a car being taken away on a recovery truck shortly before 11pm on September 5, explained Mr Edward Soulsby, prosecuting.

McGuire, who had neither a driving licence nor any insurance, fled from the wreckage but was caught after being chased on foot. The crash caused more than £5,000 worth of damage.

McGuire had bought the Hyundai earlier that same day and suspected it had been stolen because he paid just £400 for the vehicle, said Miss Charmaine Robinson, defending.

She continued: "This was a disgraceful piece of driving. He knew he did not have a driving licence or insurance and panicked when he saw the police."

McGuire from Lye Avenue, Woodgate, admitted dangerous driving and having no insurance or a driving licence. He was given a 14-month prison sentence suspended for two years. He was banned from driving for 18 months, ordered to complete rehabilitation courses, must carry out 200 hours unpaid work and pay £340 costs.

## Pervert, 63, sent to prison after sex assaults on public transport

A PERVERT from Cradley Heath who preyed on females using public transport has been jailed. Michael Cosco, 63, of Halesowen Road, has been put behind bars for two years and nine months following the incidents.

On March 13 an 18-year-old woman contacted police after getting off a Birmingham to Sutton Coldfield service, saying she felt 'violated' after a man rubbed himself against her shoulder. Police were called again on March 15, by the father of a 13-year-old girl, who said his daughter had been touched inappropriately on her journey home from school and they had seen the man responsible at Aston station, where police then arrested Cosco.

He admitted one charge of sexual assault, following a trial at Wolverhampton Crown Court, was convicted of the sexual assault against the 13-year-old with the judge ordering other charges lie on record.

## Mike tells of life rocking at the Robin



Lots of famous names feature in anecdotes in the autobiography from Robin club boss Mike Hamblett

THE boss of a rock club has put pen to paper to reflect on a remarkable 26 years at the helm of a venue dubbed The Marquee Of The Midlands.

Mike Hamblett, owner of the Robin 2, in Bilston, has written his autobiography, which doubles as a history of one of the most famous rock clubs in Britain.

It reflects on his upbringing in Crad-

ley Heath and also provides memories of such stars as Bill Wyman from The Rolling Stones, Dudley comic-singer-actor Lenny Henry, the four members of Slade, Hollywood star Steven Seagal and other big names like Ben E King, Roy Wood, Billy Ocean, Martha Reeves, 10CC and many more.

Mike said: "The idea to do a book came about when we reached our 25th

anniversary. We started out over at the Robin Hood, next to Merry Hill, but had to move out of there when they wanted to knock it down and build a car park.

"So we found The Robin 2 in Bilston and created a bigger venue with a hotel and restaurant."

Mike describe writing Keepin' Music Live as 'a real labour of love'.

## Driver is jailed after passengers seriously injured

AN OLDBURY man has been jailed for a high-speed crash which left his two passengers with life-changing injuries.

Just days before Christmas last year, officers spotted a Vauxhall Corsa driven by 21-year-old Jamie Chatwin speeding on Clent Road in the early hours of the morning.

Officers made several attempts to halt the car, however Chatwin failed to stop and continued driving erratically, weaving in and out of lanes.

Officers abandoned the pursuit due to the risk to other road users. Minutes later the Corsa crashed into a tree and then the central reservation.

Two female passengers suffered serious injuries.

Chatwin, of Oldacre Road, was sentenced to 26 months in jail and disqualified from driving for four years and one month for dangerous driving, causing serious injury and driving without a licence and insurance.

He was handed the jail term at Birmingham Crown Court on October 12, after the incident happened on December 23 last year.

Sergeant Adrian Brown, said: "Chatwin was showing off and driving dangerously, and in doing so has seriously injured his friends. Families are and will suffer the consequences of Chatwin's actions for many years to come."

## Hall is alive with the Sound of Music

THE Black Country will be alive with the Sound of Music next year during a special sing-along celebration of the hit Julie Andrews musical.

Tickets have gone on sale at £15 for the Sing-along Sound of Music screening at Dudley Town Hall on Friday, March 15, 2019. See boroughhalls.co.uk or call (01884) 812812.

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IN MY VIEW  
with Mark Andrews



# When fast still meant top marks in design

FIFTEEN years ago this week, crowds gathered around Heathrow Airport, their noses pressed against the perimeter wire. As the flight from New York to London touched the runway, there was barely a dry eye in the audience.

The plane in question was Concorde, and the journey the world's last supersonic flight. Incredibly, next year also marks the 50th anniversary since it first took to the air. Even today, Concorde is a remarkable feat of engineering. Faster than the speed of sound, it got you from London to New York in about the same time it took to drive to the airport.

And this year also marks 80 years since Mallard broke the world speed record, hitting 126mph near Grantham. Like Concorde, Mallard was remarkable not only for what it achieved, but also for its beauty of design. Look at its sleek, futuristic lines, and contrast them with the shabby old multiple units you find running today's commuter routes.

The 20th century was the age of the artist engineer, visionaries who achieved the impossible and created something beautiful. Whereas today's technology revolves around dreary computers and phone apps, creating a generation of introverted teenagers and putting our high streets out of business.

□ □ □

ON the plus side, advances in robot technology mean we will only need to work a four-day week. At least that's what shadow chancellor John McDonnell says. The other way of looking at it is that, as robots render human labour obsolete, countless jobs will be lost and millions thrown onto the dole. Based on past experience, which do you think is more likely?

□ □ □

AS we look ahead to the festival of Remembrance, I suppose it wouldn't be the same without the usual suspects enjoying their 15 minutes of fame by sounding of a note of rebellion.

But in years gone by, it used to be pretty benign stuff, like CND leader Bruce Kent wearing a white poppy. These days it seems to be much nastier.

Earlier this month Prof Kehinde Andrews of Birmingham City University declared that Winston Churchill was racist. Hardly original, but it was his comments that followed that sent a chill down the spine. He added: "The truth is Hitler was a great military leader, a product of his time, and if they won the war we would be having this discussion now." How is he still in a job?

# 007 comment and the twitterwaves are buzzing



Jonathan Dimbleby – blames social media for decline of reasoned discussion



Jodie Whittaker – the new Doctor Who uses her brain instead to disarm villains



Piers Morgan – accused over suggestion that he made on Daniel Craig

# Oh baby! I just hate all this 'crime' talk

PIERS Morgan was probably guilty of some terrible hate crime this week when he suggested that Daniel Craig carrying his baby in a papoose showed that 007 had been emasculated. In Morgan's book, real men carry kids in their big hairy arms. As night follows day, women took to the twitterwaves to declare that there is nothing so manly as a bloke carrying his baby in a papoose. And there's nothing so embarrassed as a bloke whose woman feels she has to tell the world that he's manly. Some things are better left unsaid.

WHITEHALL is looking at proposals to extend hate crimes to cover the abuse of people based on their age or gender. Bang goes my fan mail.

REMEMBER the row at the National Trust last summer when volunteers were "invited" to wear badges celebrating a gay-pride campaign? Some felt uncomfortable at the idea and either stayed away or were relegated to back-room jobs. For an organisation usually associated with genteel English gardens and tea on the lawn, the NT were behaving in a nasty, bullying way. When the story hit the papers and NT members started cancelling their subscriptions, the Trust backed down. So what will happen at the BBC to staff who choose not to wear "LGBT ally" badges which have been designed to show support to LGBT colleagues? We are watching.

INCIDENTALLY, the term "jerk" may be a hate crime against jerks. Guilty as charged.

GENDER-stereotype alert. Doctor Who

## THE BEST OF PETER RHODES



(BBC1) now in a female incarnation (Jodie Whittaker) made the feminist point that men are violent clots who instinctively reach for guns and bullets. The new Doctor uses her brain instead and disarms the robot-snipers by creating an electro-magnetic field. In the interest of balance, I should point out that the Doctor's famous sonic screwdriver has been adapted for female use. It now carries the instruction: "Lefty loosey, righty tighty."

NEW research suggests that fish which are caught and then released are unable to feed properly because the hook damages their lip. Reports referred to anglers "throwing the fish back." This is an offensive term. Genuine anglers never throw a fish anywhere. They handle their catch gently, if only because they want it to be fighting fit for the next weekend. I have never understood coarse fishing but they do seem to respect their prey. And so, too, do we game fishers. The difference is that we knock the trout or salmon on the head and have it for tea. Which is, of course, the fish's fault for being delicious.

JONATHAN Dimbleby blames the anti-social side of social media for the decline of reasoned discussion on TV and radio, declaring: "Debate generally has deteriorated in almost direct proportion to the amount of stuff that is uttered. We get more and more words and fewer and fewer thoughts." Memo to JD: Get a grip. You and your brother David chair two of the BBC's flagship discussion shows, you with Any Questions (R4) and David with Question Time (BBC1). If the quality of national debate has fallen, you Brothers Dimbleby must take some of the blame.

FOR a kick-off, they should halt the growing trend of "straw man" arguments when someone misquotes an earlier speaker to refute a claim that was never made in the first place. It happened recently on Question Time when a man in the audience asserted that "the UK is one of the least racist societies across Europe." He was promptly denounced by a Muslim woman as "a white man saying that there's no racism in this country." He had said no such thing but Dimbleby didn't point it out and the audience erupted with mob-like applause.

WE hacks get the straw-man treatment all the time. Not long ago, on the subject of privatising the railways, an emailer accused me: "Bet you supported it at the time, Mr Rhodes, so an apology is in order." As far as I can recall I never wrote about rail privatisation, let alone supported it (although I was resolutely against water privatisation). No matter. In today's anti-social media world, you can be pilloried not only for what you said but for what some jerk thinks you might have said.

DOES anybody have a backstop to prevent the endless use of the word "backstop"?

## TALKING POINT



# Horror of horrors this is all down to us

ONCE a year it is legitimate, in fact encouraged, for children to don terrifying masks and demand money with menaces from people sitting in their own homes.

As darkness falls, a knock comes at the door as, what is often a pack of ghoulish, little creatures, sneer 'trick or treat'. The 'victim' must then pay up with a treat of some kind or face retribution – an egging being the most popular trick.

It sounds almost barbarian doesn't it? But this acceptable form of robbery is sold to us as harmless Halloween fun.

It is easy to blame yet more of the American culture sweeping over the Atlantic. Not to mention the commercial infiltration which sees our high streets filled with Halloween costumes, banners, treats etc. But in fact, Britain is the birthplace of Halloween with the tradition having begun as the Festival of Samhain and part of the ancient Celtic religion.

The Celts believed that at the end of summer, the barrier between our world and the spirit world got really thin and ghouls could wander the Earth. So the festival was essentially a huge party to scare away the spirits.

Trick or treating actually goes back, in some form, to the 16th century in Britain. So though we may grumble about the expense, the repeated knocks at the door on October 31, and the requirement on parents to escort their little muggers on trick-or-treat escapades, we only have ourselves to blame.

But actually this British tradition can actually be fun. I always enjoyed the costume drama of dressing up my children. I liked to decorate the house and have a cauldron full of sweets ready. However, there is a 'but' – and that is the worry it poses for the elderly and vulnerable.

How terrifying must it be to look out of your window and see someone in one of those horrid 'Scream' masks for example. Parents and children must be sensible when trawling the streets looking for 'trick or treat' targets. Decorated homes clearly invite callers but if they look like an elderly person may live there, perhaps a bungalow, don't be a nuisance.

If the door is not answered promptly walk away. Try to stay close to home where you are more familiar with neighbours.

While the children may be having a scream, remember to others they are frightening young terrors demanding money with menaces.

May everyone have the Halloween they hope for and only the spirits be frightened away.

DIANE DAVIES

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# The Brexit elite aim to reduce workers' rights and conditions in a poorer Britain

BREXITERS want a deal that lets them undermine employment rights. Rees-Mogg says he cannot "support all the employment rights that come from Europe"; for Liam Fox it's "unsustainable to believe that workplace rights should remain untouchable". Johnson adds "the weight of employment regulation is now backbreaking".

Secondly, these Brexiters even doubt the economic benefits of Brexit.

Liam Fox told the Times "Brexit...

is not a guarantee that everything is going to be rosy on the other side". Rees-Mogg admitted it may be 50 years before we see the benefits of Brexit. By then most of us will be long gone - and not because we can move abroad like wealthy Brexiters!

Rees-Mogg's firm is allegedly moving some operations to Ireland and John Redwood has apparently advised his moneyed clients to move funds out of the UK. So much for patriotism.

Workers and others committed to Britain did not vote for the country to become poorer, have their employment rights reduced and working conditions made worse. Yet this is where these Brexiters are leading us.

It's nothing like what they promised. It's time we took back control. We need a final say with a people's vote on the final deal when it comes.

**HUGH WILLIAMS**  
Stourbridge

## Life should mean life for ISIS

THE news that a number of ISIS supporters will soon be released from prison is bad enough, but the fact that the tax-payer will have to pay huge sums of money for surveillance adds insult to injury.

Why should we pay such amounts for the liberty of people who seek to destroy our liberty?

Terrorism destroys families and circles of friends for ever. Those who are lost have no liberty.

I am not in favour of capital punishment, but I do believe that the punishment should fit the crime.

Therefore anyone convicted of being involved in terrorism at any level should suffer a punishment in keeping with the suffering of their victims and their families.

They should face life imprisonment without access to communications with their friends and families until they die.

**MICHAEL CLIFF**  
Wall Heath

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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## Strictly, it takes two to stray

STRICTLY stars Seann and Katya - what a fuss about their snog in public, allegedly outside a pub. It's certainly not possible to apportion blame. It takes two.

First of all, it has to be said that there is nothing 'strictly' about Strictly Come Dancing, it is simply an entertainment show, the more glitzy and sexy the better, with the females in the scantiest clothes they can find.

The Cha Cha Cha is announced or the Charleston but what follows is nothing like a Cha Cha Cha or the Charleston, except for a remotely choreographed improvised movement occasionally.

Practising these close-contact clinches and lifts, etc, for hours on end every week is sure to lead to other things by their very nature for some (but by no means all). 'Come Dancing' of yesteryear was worthy of the prefix 'Strictly'.

**PAULINE POOLE**  
Willenhall

## Fracking could ease pressure on energy

THE UK imports about 59 per cent of its gas supply. Much comes from Norway but we do import Russian gas. It seems sensible to me to have a strongly controlled fracking industry in this country to provide cover in emergencies until we can provide much more from wind farms and solar panels, etc.

We imported Russian gas earlier in the year following an unusual cold spell and we need to do everything possible to reduce our levels of imports which often have to be paid in US dollars and Euros.

Fracking should not become the norm, but it will ease the pressure during periods of unusual demand.

**ROGER WATTS**  
Walsall

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# £230k for clock that stood the test of time

A 328-YEAR-OLD timepiece created by England's most famous clockmaker was snapped up for more than £200,000 at auction.

The Thomas Tompion bracket clock, circa 1690, went under the hammer at Hansons Auctioneers' Fine Art Auction at Bishton Hall, Wolseley Bridge and was bought by an anonymous UK-based buyer. It is one of 650 clocks created by Tompion.

The collection includes two created for King Charles II.

The historical treasure was bought for £230,000 once fees and VAT were added.

Charles Hanson, owner of Hansons, said: "It's a truly magnificent and historically important object which thoroughly deserves to achieve this sale figure."

## Quality

"The clock was unearthed in Derbyshire. It has come from the Belper estate of a North Derbyshire man linked to the mining industry. It is a particularly fine example of Tompion's work - work which has stood the test of time. His bracket clocks are regarded as masterpieces."

"Tompion was an inventor as well as a maker of clocks of the finest quality. Fastidious when it came to detail, design and the use of quality materials, he set unrelentingly high standards."

"His work is still admired to this day. I call him Father Time."

At the same auction, rare first edition of a masterpiece book fetched £65,000.

Published in 1776, Volumes 1 and 2 of Inquiry into the Nature and Causes of the Wealth of Nations, commonly known as The Wealth of Nations, is the second most cited book in the so-



Clockmaker Thomas Tompion



Wealth of Nation sold for £65,000



Charles Hanson with the Tompion clock that went for £230,000

cial sciences published before 1950, behind Karl Marx's Capital - and it was found in a cupboard by chance.

Wealth of Nations was estimated to fetch between £35,000 to £50,000 and surpassed expectations when sold to a private UK phone bidder at Hansons' Library Auction.

Two phone bidders locked horns in a battle to secure the book. Books expert

Jim Spencer discovered it during routine final preparations for the sale of the contents of Staffordshire mansion Bishton Hall. In 2013, an edition of the book sold for £46,000 at an auction in Edinburgh.

Mr Spencer, head of the Library Department at Derbyshire's Hansons Auctioneers, which handled the sale, said: "I felt like I'd stuck gold."

# Debenhams likely to axe one in three of its stores

**STRUGGLING** department store Debenhams is preparing a radical overhaul of its 200-year-old business that could see it close some of its stores.

The company, which announces annual results today (Thursday), is understood to have identified around a third of its 166 stores for possible closure. Debenhams has stores in at Brierley Hill's Merry Hill centre, the Bullring in Birmingham, Kidderminster, Lichfield and opened in Wolverhampton's Mander Centre last year.

It is also understood to be preparing a significant write-down of its goodwill - the way companies account for their inherent value - that would result in a one-off charge of several hundred millions of pounds.

The department store, which has posted a string of profit warnings this year, is seeking to make around £100 million in savings. Scrapping the dividend will save about £30m.

Managers are also weighing proposals to save £70m by reducing capital expenditure. The extent of Debenhams' store closures will

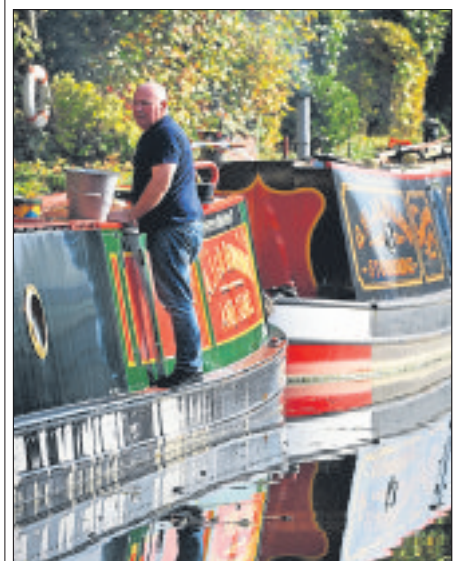
## By James Pugh

depend on negotiations with landlords.

It is thought the chain could shrink to around 100 outlets over coming years. The restructuring, set to be outlined alongside Debenhams' results, follows the arrival of Rachel Osborne as finance director last month. She is likely to emphasise that any write-down relates to non-cash items only and is not a reflection of recent overall performance.

Debenhams is battling with expensive leases signed in more buoyant retail times. Debenhams chief executive Sergio Bucher said: "After our people, property is our biggest cost and, right now, it is our biggest challenge."

## Canal cavalcade marks anniversary



Canal boats lined up along the water's edge for the Stourbridge Navigation Trust weekend at Stourbridge

DOZENS of boats moored along the canal for Stourbridge Navigation Trust's annual open weekend.

The event was at the town's Bonded Warehouse and along the canal.

The trust's 35th open weekend also included classic vehicles, traction engines, amusements, canal boat trips, fair-ground organs and a craft fair.

Heide Barratt, from the trust, said: "We were very pleased with how the event went - the weather certainly helps but large crowds turned up over the duration of the day with the afternoon seeing Canal Street jammed with people enjoying the array of stalls and attractions."

David Bosworth took his 1920 Garrett engine down for the weekend.

He said: "It was actually owned by the Saddler brothers at Stourbridge dock and operated there. I wanted to bring it back to its old stomping ground."

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# Whole lotta hope for city's charity art auction



Artist Louise Cobbold with her painting of rock music legend and Wolves fan Robert Plant, which is up for auction

**A CHARITY art auction will feature work by the Wolves match day programme artist.**

A number of artworks will be up for grabs at the auction in Birmingham on November 20 and there's a 'Whole Lotta Love' for a painting going under the hammer of Led Zeppelin legend and celebrity Wolves fan Robert Plant.

The piece depicting the iconic rock-

star was created by Louise Cobbold, the artist who has previously raised money for Cure Leukaemia through her paintings of Wolves players.


These same paintings, that feature captain Conor Coady and manager Nuno Espirito Santo, among others, have been used for the match day programmes for Wolves' home fixtures this season.

More than 50 artworks have been


donated by artists across the UK for the Royal Birmingham Society of Artists (RBSA) charity auction. The event is being run by Bonhams and is in collaboration with Deutsche Bank Birmingham and Cure Leukaemia and is being held at Deutsche Bank's Brindleyplace headquarters.

Tickets to the auction cost £10 and will go to Cure Leukaemia, with proceeds from the sales to the RBSA.






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# CCTV shows man sought over robbery of pensioners

CCTV footage has been released of a man believed to have threatened a pensioner with a knife in one of two robberies in West Bromwich.

Police have released the footage of the suspect after the elderly victims were targeted last week.

Detectives believe the man pictured carried out two crimes – first demanding cash from a couple in Wilford Road – making off with £90 – and then stealing from an 80-year-old woman two days later in David Harman Drive. He escaped with cash and sentimental items.

The suspect shown in the CCTV is described as white, around 5ft 5ins to 5ft 8ins tall, of large or stocky build.

According to the woman targeted in the second incident, the thief wore a black jacket with elasticated cuffs, black trousers and trainers. He had short brown or blonde hair and red cheeks.

Officers are now appealing for anyone with information to come forward. Det Con James Finnegan, from West Midlands Police CID, said: “The man in the footage is fairly distinctive. We are determined to find this man.”

Anyone with information can police through their website or by calling 101, quoting crime reference numbers 20SW/231323T/18 or 20SW/233259H/18. Or call Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

## Jonathan graduates to major acting role

AN acting graduate from the West Midlands has hit the big time with roles on major TV and streaming productions.

Jonathan Jude graduated from Birmingham's Newman University in 2015 with 2:1 honours in drama.

Since then, he has moved to London and pursued a career in acting, recently finishing filming a series for Sky1 called Living The Dream, where he plays an American high school DJ called Dylan.

He is also starring in Netflix production Close, alongside actress Noomi Rapace. Both shows are coming out at the end of the year.

## Church holds fair

A CHURCH fair is coming to Cradley Heath next weekend. It will be staged at Lawrence Lane Methodist Church in Old Hill on November 3, from 10.30am to 2pm and will feature stalls, refreshments and hot dogs.

# Stage set for story of The Three Degrees



The Three Degrees meet at West Brom

THE story of West Bromwich Albion's legendary 'Three Degrees' is being brought to the stage and introduced to a new generation.

The Baggies teamed up with Sandwell Academy's performing arts students to research, write and stage the show about the struggles faced by black footballers 40 years ago and Albion's role in breaking barriers in the '70s.

Rehearsals are now in full swing and the show, titled '1978: The Ultimate Goal', will be staged at Sandwell Academy on December 12 and 13. The

show will also mark the 40th anniversary of that Albion team's landmark performance in a 5-3 victory at Manchester United.

The club has 275 tickets available for the December 13 performance, which will be sold on a first come, first served basis, priced at £5. Supporters can buy them now from the East Stand ticket office or by calling 0121 2272227. Albion are founding sponsors of Sandwell Academy, located next to The Hawthorns.

Officials had been discussing plans for Three Degrees project for more

than a year but the death of Cyrille Regis in January added extra poignancy to the idea.

The story of the iconic trio of Cyrille, Brendon Batson and Laurie Cunningham is told through the final script written by Lesley Lingard-Lane. They got their nickname due to the popularity of female soul group The Three Degrees at the time.

West Brom Director of Communications Martin Swain said: “The idea was to introduce the story of that time to a generation who may not be aware of that Albion team's significance.”

# Motorists told to curb speeds near schools

**MORE 20mph zones have been introduced near schools in Sandwell and those caught flouting the law could face Kids Courts.**

Drivers will have to cut their speed from 30 mph to 20 on Tiverton Road and Windmill Lane in Smethwick and on Moat Road in Oldbury.

The measures, now in force, follow complaints over speeding traffic on the routes.

Drivers caught breaking the speed limit have been warned they will face a fine.

And Sandwell Council highways boss David Hosell said he was even working with local schools to create a Kids Court for the area – which will see shamed drivers hauled before children to answer difficult questions about why they were breaking the limit.

Windmill Lane runs outside St Matthew's C of E Primary School and parents and residents have been keen to see traffic slowed there. It also leads onto the busy Cape Hill – one of the worst accident blackspots in the borough. Moat Road in Oldbury is home to Our Lady and St Hubert's Catholic Primary and the Q3 Academy.

## Railings

Earlier this year a car ploughed through a front garden railings and hit a house in Tiverton Road. It was the third successive year it had happened.

Councillor Hosell said: “We have received numerous complaints about people speeding along these roads. It is not a cash cow – it is to make our estate's roads safer.”

Councillor Hosell said Kids Courts were already working effectively in other areas.

“Police are stopping the people who are excessively speeding and they are given the chance of paying a fine or going in front of Kids Court,” he said. “We are working with schools for this. A child might say to them how would you feel if you had run me over and killed me? I have seen hard-faced drivers go out of there in tears and would never speed again.”

Sandwell Council has introduced 20mph zones on numerous roads.

## Walking bus transports pupils



Yew Tree Primary School pupils on the Walking Bus with Councillors Shirley Hosell and Steve Melia

CHILDREN in Sandwell are getting to school safely thanks to a new walking bus scheme.

Sandwell Council's highways team has been working with Yew Tree Primary, local councillors, the neighbourhoods team and West Midlands Police to tackle parking and congestion problems at drop-off and pick-up times. Par-

ents can sign up to use a drop-off zone five minutes from the school on the Yew Tree estate. Children then walk safely to their classes with a “walking bus conductor”.

There's also a Park and Stride programme allowing parents or carers to park away from the school gate and walk the short distance with their children to

school. Pupils have created colourful banners and signs pointing out the dangers of poor parking outside the school.

Headteacher Rachel Hawkins said: “The walking bus is proving to be a great way to increase children's activity levels whilst reducing the number of cars around the school.”

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Image released over RSPB theft

POLICE have released a photo of a man they want to speak to regarding a burglary at the West Bromwich branch of a national bird charity.

West Midlands Police last week reported that three men forced their way into the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) in Tanhouse Avenue, Hamstead, stealing tools and materials. The burglary took place at around 2.30am on Monday, October 8.

The offenders also damaged a security camera.

Officers have released an image of one of the men, who has tried to disguise himself, who they want to speak to in connection with the burglary.

Anyone who recognises the man, or has any information in relation to the incident, can call West Midlands Police on 101, quoting crime reference number 20SW/232142U/18. Or call Crimestoppers on 0800 555111.



Suspect

### Drug-driver jailed for student death

AN uninsured drug-driver has been jailed for six years for causing the death of a teenager crossing a Great Barr road.

University student Charlie Heywood, 19, was killed when he was hit by a car driven at speed while crossing the A34 in June, 2016.

James Wilson, of Chudleigh Grove, Great Barr, was sentenced at Birmingham Crown Court after being found guilty of causing death while driving without due care, while over the prescribed limit for drugs and while uninsured. He was also banned from driving for six years upon his release, subject to an extended retest.

### Dishing up bake event for charity

A BUSINESS in Oldbury is set to hold a baking event to raise money for a Sandwell charity.

Motorpoint Oldbury, for National Baking Week, will hold the Great Motorpoint Bake Off with money raised going to Sandwell Parents for Disabled Children (SPDC).

The event will take place at the car dealership, in Churchbridge Road in Oldbury, on October 31 between 10am and 5pm.

### Woman hit by car

A FEMALE pedestrian suffered 'potentially life changing injuries' after being hit by a car. She was struck by a female driver in Chester Road, Castle Vale, at around 9.10am on Monday.

# Team Blind Dave conquer Great Wall



Challenge complete, Blind Dave and his Albion team on the wall Picture: @WBAFoundation

CHARITY champion 'Blind' Dave Heeley has conquered the Great Wall of China with an Albion Foundation team including his wife and three daughters, Albion hero Brendan Batson, and the widow and daughter of fellow Baggies legend Cyrille Regis.

Dave was joined by his wife Debbie and daughters – Grace, Georgie and Danni – for the trek along the man-made wonder.

The Heeleys were part of a 22-strong group that flew out to complete the 60-mile walk.

The walkers included trustee for the foundation Mr Batson, and Cyrille's daughter Michelle Regis and her mother Julia.

The funds raised are being divided between the foundation and the Cyrille Regis Legacy Trust.

The trek followed in the footsteps of Dave's beloved Albion, who went on a famous tour of China in 1978 led by

then manager Ron Atkinson – including a visit to the iconic landmark.

To prepare for the trek, the Heeley family pounded the steps of the stands of the Hawthorns – the highest ground above sea-level in the football league.

Dave, who is famous for his globe-trotting fundraising ventures, said: “The Albion Foundation is just a fabulous charity which promotes confidence, independence, and it just helps people and that's wonderful to be a part of.”

Michelle said: “Walking the Great Wall of China has been an amazing and emotional experience.”

To donate, visit [www.justgiving.com/fundraising/teamblinddave2018](http://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/teamblinddave2018) or [www.justgiving.com/fundraising/jonathan-ward-china](http://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/jonathan-ward-china)

# Borough pioneers network to help Parkinson's patients

AN initiative pioneered in Dudley to help keep Parkinson's patients out of hospital has led to the creation of a national network, which has been launched this month.

Janine Barnes, neurology specialist pharmacist with the Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust, has set up a network to train pharmacists across the country.

The newly-formed Parkinson's Disease Specialist Pharmacy Network (PDSPN) will train pharmacists to help people manage their condition through medication.

The network held its first steering committee meeting in Birmingham last week to develop an educational programme for hundreds of pharmacists who have already expressed an interest in further training.

Ms Barnes was the first neurology specialist pharmacist in the UK and was named Clinical Pharmacist of the Year in 2012. After speaking at a conference in London, she was approached by pharmacists interested in finding out more about Parkinson's.

Parkinson's is thought to affect around

one in 500 people in the UK. It causes tremors, stiffness in the muscles and slow movement. It can also lead to depression, memory problems and insomnia.

Ms Barnes said: “We are seeing more people with Parkinson's due to an ageing population, better diagnosis and more people coming forward.

## Ideal

“Parkinson's medication is often very complex so pharmacists are the ideal profession to help these patients.

“By being a point of contact, we as pharmacists can use our skills to monitor their medication and possible interactions with medications prescribed for their other health conditions, to keep them healthy and out of hospital.”

Dudley is also leading the way in the care of Parkinson's patients with the neurology pathway of the Dudley Rehabilitation Service which includes Parkinson's disease nurses. Ms Barnes added: “People with the condition have the support of this team which takes them out of the hospital system, freeing up nurses' and consultants' time.”

# Burglar who apologised gets 10 months in jail

A BURGLAR returned to the scene of the crime four hours later to apologise to the terrified 90-year-old victim, a judge heard.

The elderly woman was asleep when Gabriel Scoban broke a window in the back door and slipped into her Langley home but she woke when he stepped into her bedroom at 3am on September 17, Wolverhampton Crown Court was told.

"She saw the defendant in the doorway, screamed, got out of her bed, grabbed hold of her walking stick and told him, in no uncertain terms, to leave," revealed Ms Caroline Harris, prosecuting. The 29-year-old Romanian immigrant escaped with just a couple of pounds, a packet of cigarettes, a lighter and the keys to the bungalow.

But Scoban came back at 7am, knocked on the kitchen window with the keys which he then used to open the door before dropping them on the floor and saying 'sorry' before running off again, continued Ms Harris.

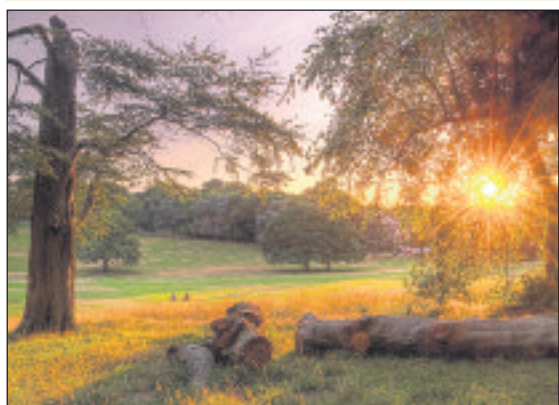
The victim, who suffers from Parkinson's Disease and has a pacemaker, and her granddaughter, who had rushed to her side as soon as she heard of the break in, both saw the man and called police again. He was soon spotted by officers and arrested.

Scoban got in by breaking a small pane of glass to reach keys hanging inside the door which he used to enter the property. He had arrived legally in this country to find work nine months earlier but was homeless after losing his car wash job and the accommodation that went with it.

The victim is now on anti depressants as she struggles to overcome the dreadful shock of the break in. Mr Jasvir Mann, defending, conceded: "The defendant was at the end of his tether."

Scoban, of no fixed address and without previous convictions in this country, admitted burglary and was jailed for 10 months by Judge Simon Ward.

## Woods stay in top 10 parks



A beautiful sunset at Warley Woods, which has been named as one of the top 10 parks in the country for the third year in a row

WARLEY Woods has again been named as one of the top 10 best parks in the country. Each year, the public is invited to vote for their favourite by Keep Britain Tidy.

Judges got busy counting more than 65,000 votes for 2018, and the Smethwick attraction was once again in the top 10. It makes it the third year in a row it has been in the running. Warley Woods community trust manager Viv Cole said to be voted by the people for the award felt 'incredibly special'.

She said: "We have been a Green Flag Award Winner for 10 years

now, which matters a lot to us but the People's Choice award is just extra special. As the people take the time out of their day to press that button and vote for us. That's a real boost."

People who enjoy the park are now being invited to become a member of the Trust that runs it. Every membership and donation goes into ensuring Warley Woods remains special for now and future generations. It costs £12 for families, £6 for an individual or £4 for a concession. Visit warleywoods.org.uk for more information.

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# A new life

When former specialist nurse Sheila Haycock finally found a solution for her failing teeth she quite literally received a prescription for a new life . . . and so did her husband, Dave.

Emotionally broken by a catalogue of dental disasters, for a whole year she suffered pain every day and her confidence plummeted. "Each day was a nightmare.

"Every day I'd have a new ulcer in my mouth. I couldn't eat properly, stopped going out and couldn't face looking at myself in a mirror - in fact, I'd cover them up.

"I'd speak and laugh with my hand in front of my mouth, avoid having my picture taken and couldn't chew properly - if I did go out, I'd always have to order lasagne because it was soft food," she recalls.

### Terrified of dentist

Sheila's problems began when her natural teeth became mobile and braved her worst fears, having a full clearance to make way for an upper and lower denture.

Terrified of the dentist, she adds: "I thought it was impossible for things to get worse, but nothing could have prepared me for the next 12 months. The first time I took my teeth out and looked in the mirror, psychologically, I was beside myself.



Sheila and Dave Haycock - a new outlook on life

"I'd been so preoccupied with mastering my fear of the dentist, I hadn't worked through the impact of losing my teeth would have on me. It was devastating."

Initially, Dave confesses to "not being that helpful," explaining her native teeth "needed to go and to deal with it."

"I know, I told him," says Sheila, "but they were mine!"

Even the loss of a single tooth is now clinically recognised as a potential precursor for a mourning process.

Adds Dave: "She was upset and I felt utterly helpless. The guilt of it all . . .

I wanted to help, but couldn't. I could eat what ever I wanted, but she couldn't and every day - every day - there was a new problem to address."

Retired nurse Sheila got a new smile after a year of dental misery, husband Dave admits he too is now enjoying the life changes it's brought about.

Predictably reassuring

My experience with Steven and his team was the best. Getting the implants really is money well spent.

- Roy Phillpott

Steven's professionalism gave me the confidence and assurance that they could resolve my problem.

- Norma Aston

When I first saw my teeth I thought they looked just like my real teeth.

- Vicki Ball

Sheila, who specialised in wound dressings, admits she felt trapped, having been assured her jawbone density would be too poor to support implants.

"My dentures seemed to be rotating and rolling around and I hated the denture glue. I'd use it and as soon as I'd try to eat something, within 15 minutes my teeth would be unstable again. I was mortified having to use

it over and over again. I was not coping."

Taking advice from her daughter, who had received a recommendation from a work colleague that North Street Dental and Implant Clinic could help, Sheila headed for Dudley.

"Within 15 minutes of walking in to the surgery Steven [practice principal Steven Burchell DipCDT RCS(Eng)] was helping me," she says.

As a temporary measure, an oral impression was taken and her painful dentures lined with a soft material that would help ease the discomfort and improve fit.

### 'Own teeth'

Sheila was prescribed a traditional top prosthetic and a lower over-denture, retained on two implants. The surgery was carried out under sedation by North Street's clinical lead, Owain Rees BDS DGD(UK) Dip Imp Dent (UCL) GDC61576.

"All I can say is that it has completely changed my life. There's nothing I can't eat and the implant prosthetic doesn't feel false. It's comparable for me to my own teeth. When I first saw my new teeth in the mirror, I thought who's this person? They looked natural, just like real teeth," says Sheila.

Dave, a former civil engineer, adds: "She's completely different. It's been life-changing for me too and we can now get on with our retirement."

Both keen gardeners, they agree the financial investment is in a quality life choice. "It's the best thing she's ever had done," adds Dave.

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# 12 Suicides are down but 'work still to do'

Halesowen Chronicle Thursday, October 25, 2018

THE number of suicides has been steadily declining since 2002 – but council leaders have said more prevention work is still needed.

Latest figures for Wolverhampton reveal there were 66 deaths attributed to suicide for the three years between 2014 and 2016 – of these, 56 (85 per cent) were male.

In 2016 there were 20 cases where suicide was listed as the final underlying cause of death. For 2014 and 2015 the figures were 25 and 21 respectively.

Councillor Hazel Malcolm, the council's wellbeing boss, said more work still needs to be done: "The impact of suicide is profound."

"Each suicide impacts a significant number of family and friends. Research estimates that the cost of one suicide is £1.7m, which consists of costs to services and the economy through issues such as time lost from work, which in turn has an impact on productivity."

"Within Wolverhampton, there are a high number of public health-related issues such as alcohol and drug

By Megan Archer

misuse and unemployment, which statistically are sometimes more pertinent to men, and these can be major factors behind suicide."

She added: "Research identified that only 25 per cent of suicides in the city were people known to the mental health trust, and this indicates that support for these patients needs to be done in partnership with other organisations."

"GPs play a critical role in identification of suicidal thoughts and providing the appropriate support. The forum is seeking to deliver training to GPs in partnership with the city's Clinical Commissioning Group."

The council called for a suicide needs assessment.

## Unlocking secrets of the workshop



The Locksmith's House, from left, John Cartwright, Simon Warner and locksmith Andy Middlebrook

THE heat was on as visitors got 'hands-on' experience of the life of a locksmith. Set in the Edwardian house and lock-making workshops of the Hodson family in New Road, Willenhall – visitors were introduced to the forge, basic forging tools and how to use them.

They learnt how to forge a point, a flat and a bend into a piece of metal – some of the key elements to forging a padlock. And at the end of the day, they walked away with their own bar padlock and nails.

The day, organised by the Black Country Living Museum, also included a private tour around the house itself, which showed how the business operated alongside family life. The house in Willenhall has been recreated with belongings and furniture of the Hodson family of lock makers, the last inhabitants of 54 New Road.

The museum launched the experience days last year and is continuing into 2019.

# Rum business toasting £30k investment success

A CRAFT rum business is toasting its success after winning £30,000 investment from the Black Country's Richardson business family.

The announcement came at the Trafalgar business leaders dinner backed by the Richardsons at Hagley Hall last week.

Burning Barn smoked rum was launched by Katherine Jenner three years ago, inspired by a severe fire at the family farm at Hampton-in-Arden, near Solihull. Although firecrews saved their house, the barn was utterly destroyed.

From the ashes Katherine was inspired to launch her own brand of fiery smoked rum and was one of three businesses shortlisted for the Richardson investment after a pitch competition at Birmingham's Venturefest event last month.

## Traditional

Rum was the traditional drink of the Royal Navy down the ages and this project would have won the approval of British naval hero Lord Nelson, whose victory at the Battle of Trafalgar was being celebrated.

The Richardson's Oldbury-based property and investment business was keen to support an emerging and innovative young business from the region.

Chris O' Connor, investment director of RCL Partners, speaking on behalf of the Richardson Foundation, said: "We want to support early stage businesses."

"All three finalists are really promising but we felt that the investment would have the greatest benefit for Burning Barn."

A delighted Katherine said: "This means we can expand and take on



Katherine Jenner's rum has investment from the Richardson Foundation

more people. It takes us a big step forward."

The other finalists were Birmingham sisters Reena and Geeta Salhan, who launched the Green Sisters range of allergen-free Indian snacks, and Coventry's Jeff Zhang who's Beacon Helmet uses laser technology to improve safety.

The latest investment, through the Richardson Brothers Foundation, underlines the new direction of the family business.

Built as a property empire by Roy Richardson and his late twin brother Don, Roy's sons Martyn, Lee and Carl

have been at the helm for the past 20 years expanding the range of the business, which operates across the UK and around the world.

The Richardson family now have investments in companies ranging from a New Zealand avocado producer to a British vineyard producing award-winning sparkling wine.

Carl Richardson told guests: "Supporting young talent as it enters the workforce and backing local entrepreneurs in a dynamic and flexible West Midlands business environment helps us all to deal with the challenges ahead and make the most of opportunities."

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# Follow the stars for a comic nativity play



**The wisecrackers – Hugh Dennis, Lesley Garrett and Maurice Rose in The Messiah Picture: Robert Day**

**The Messiah, Birmingham Rep**  
TWO slightly challenged actors and an opera singer team up to act out the Nativity story, what could possibly go wrong?

When the actors are played by improvisation heavyweight Hugh Dennis and Doc Martin stooge John Marquez alias Pc Joe Penhale, while the opera singer is none other than Lesley Garrett you know it is going to be something special – and very funny.

In the role of Maurice Rose, it is a second coming for Dennis as he returns to the stage for the first time in over 20 years. While for Garrett, in the role of Mrs Leonora Fflyte, it is her first play. The Messiah is written and directed by Patrick Barlow, the man behind the

Olivier award-winning West End hit 39 Steps. It follows the Christmas production by The Maurice Rose Players, consisting of Maurice Rose, his friend Ronald Bream (Marquez) and the diva Mrs F (Garrett).

The leadership of pompous prattler Rose becomes increasingly unstable throughout the production – particularly when his hapless pal Ronald and the snooty Mrs F team up in a mutiny.

While the farce and slapstick humour smacks the audience in the face demanding a laugh there is a second layer of comedy to the production. Every mispronunciation and double entendre is a gem.

Dennis is wonderful as uppity, straight man Rose and has an excel-

lent partnership with his clownish chum Marquez. They bounce off each other well. Garrett doesn't have much dialogue, her contribution largely requires putting her powerful voice to work and managing to maintain a straight face while chaos erupts around her. Her facial expressions portray more than any words – she has a steely gaze that could strike a grown man down. Her vocal performances are, of course, incredible.

A wonderful, comic twist to the Nativity story performed by three outstanding talents – it looks like Christmas really has come early for Birmingham.

Runs at the Birmingham Rep until Saturday.  
**Diane Davies**

# Heart and 'sole' show



**For ladies, gentlemen and those who haven't made their mind up – a scene from Kinky Boots at the Grand Theatre this week**

**Kinky Boots, Wolverhampton Grand**  
BIG and bootiful with lots of heart and sole, this West End musical strode into the Grand with plenty of glitz, glamour and confident swagger.

Certainly, the Wolverhampton audience were on their feet to give this hit show a standing ovation and more than two hours of entertainment.

It is based on a film that was itself based on a true story about a failing Northampton shoe factory that was rescued when it discovered a niche market creating sexy women's boots for men.

This gleefully outrageous show featuring a troupe of dazzling female impersonators – the Angels – is turbo-driven by new songs written by 80s pop icon Cyndia Lauper and a sharp-tongued script from actor and writer

Harvey Fierstein. It revolves around the fabulous Lola, the flamboyant and audacious high-heeled drag queen persona of mild-mannered Simon from Clacton. Lola is persuaded to turn designer by other lead character Charlie, who has been forced by circumstance to take over the family business.

Both, it transpires, are living in their father's shadows and together they find acceptance.

On Wednesday Lola was played by Kayi Ushe rather than the anticipated star Callum Francis but the standby rose to the occasion with a five-star performance, in which he was equally adept at power ballads and disco numbers.

Joe Harper-Jackson was also compelling as Charlie with strong support from Helen Ternent as his disap-

pointed fiancée and an excellent comic turn from Paula Lane as lovesick worker Lauren. She squeezed every ounce of humour from her big number The History of Wrong Guys.

There was a technical hitch on the night which delayed the act one closing number by ten minutes. But it was worth the wait for Everybody Say Yeah, in which the factory conveyor belt was turned into a catwalk/travelator on which the cast show some very fancy footwork.

The supporting cast also includes Staffordshire's former X Factor finalist Niki Evans as factory worker Trish, showing she has acting skills to go with that soulful voice.

Kinky Boots is at the Grand until Saturday.

**Leon Burakowski**

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# KIDDERMINSTER



Kidderminster Town Council presents

## Christmas in the Town Hall

Saturday 8th December  
10:00am - 4:00pm  
Kidderminster Town Hall  
Meet Father Christmas in the Mayor's Parlour & visit our Craft Market!

**FREE EVENT!**

**Quill** PLUS SUPPORT  
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**22nd DECEMBER 2018 @ 7:30PM**

**WOLFSBANE**

DOWNSTAIRS £12.50 / BALCONY £15 + BOOKING FEE

## Christmas in the Town Hall



For the second year running, Kidderminster Town Council is delighted to present *Christmas in the Town Hall* on Saturday 8th December.

This free festive event in the prestigious Town Hall building hopes to put a bit of sparkle in your Christmas countdown!

Come and visit Father Christmas and receive a free gift. Taking a quick break from the North Pole, he will be in the Mayor's Parlour from 10:00am until 4:00pm this year with his very friendly elves! Just make sure you have your Christmas lists at the ready!

In the beautiful King Charles Room, come and view our wide selection of craft stalls. Kidderminster Town Council is pleased to support local businesses so come and browse for a few handmade presents. From items like wooden decorations, book folds, jewellery and personalised gifts there will be something for everyone. Light festive refreshments will also be available to purchase.

To view all upcoming events provided by Kidderminster Town Council, don't forget to like our social media pages or view our website on [www.kidderminstertowncouncil.gov.uk](http://www.kidderminstertowncouncil.gov.uk)

## Wolfsbane



Wolfsbane were formed in 1984 in Tamworth, England. They signed to Def American records, and Rick Rubin produced their first album, *Live Fast, Die Fast*, released in 1989. Prior to this they had recorded three demos entitled *Wolfsbane* (1985), *Dancin' Dirty* (1987) and *Wasted but Dangerous* (1988). This last one, recorded at Square Dance Studios, Derby, U.K., illustrates the band in its youngest, rawest state. They were the supporting act for Iron Maiden's UK division of their *No Prayer on the Road* tour in 1990.

The band's second full studio album *Down Fall the Good Guys*, was released in 1991, giving them their only UK Chart entry with their single "Ezy" charting at No. 68. Being an English band, signed to an American record label did not work out well for them. Def American dropped Wolfsbane as they felt that the band were not selling well enough. This did not stop the band from being voted as the UK's best unsigned act in 1993. The same year, the band released a live album, *Massive Noise Injection*, through the Bronze Company label.

The band released their third studio album, often considered to be the band's best work, the self-titled *Wolfsbane*, in 1994, again on the Bronze Company label. A limited edition of this album included the EP *Everything Else*.

However, when Bruce Dickinson left Iron Maiden, Blaze Bayley got the audition as their new singer and left Wolfsbane later on that year. Wolfsbane disbanded as a result.

Jason Edwards, Jeff Hateley, and Steve 'Danger' Ellett, the remaining members of Wolfsbane, joined with Jez Spencer to form the band *Stretch* in 1995. They released a 6-track mini-album *World of Stretch* on the Cottage Industry label.

## Quill



It's really not that often that a band can lay claim to a consistent, continuous gig sheet that goes back to the 70's. That's rare. And it is exceptionally rare to see a band grow in status, adding new members with great skills and eloquent musicianship, and developing in new and adventurous directions. But that is exactly what has happened with Quill.

Quill who hit the stage as a seven piece, once again featuring Bev Bevan (The Move, ELO, Black Sabbath) on percussion, are bursting with fresh creativity. A Quill set takes you on a journey through an unexpectedly wide range of powerful story telling material. The songs are delivered with imagination and lyrical beauty, all shot through with the presence and ease that only real stage craft can bring.

It's not easy to sum up any band in a few words, but Quill make it especially tricky. When you draw on deep diverse musical sources and when long lifetimes of experience inform your stage craft and presentation, interesting things can and do happen.

## Dirty/DC



Dirty/DC have been playing throughout the UK and Europe since 1988 and have developed a lineup and stage show that has made their reputation seriously strong amongst AC/DC fans, whether die hard fanatics or people who just want a good night out. Every visual detail has been fine tuned from the wall of Marshalls to Angus's footwear, but most importantly the music delivery and stage show has an impact regularly described as 'Awesome!'. Dirty/DC give real value for money with a full 2 hour+ show with all the AC/DC favourites from both Bon and Brian eras. So, if you love AC/DC and really want to rock - Rock up to a Dirty/DC show soon!

See more info at [dirtydc.co.uk](http://dirtydc.co.uk)



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# & Wyre Forest The Hidden Gem

The Wyre Forest is a fantastic attraction which includes the market towns of Bewdley, Kidderminster and Stourport-on-Severn. With many beautiful villages, historic houses and museums. It's home to the famous Severn Valley railway, which is a great family day out, plus the safari park. Bewdley is a beautiful picturesque Georgian town set on the River Severn. It's full of splendid beamed buildings and packed with history. Kidderminster is the home of the manufacture of carpets, with the imposing old mill buildings still around. Kidderminster has three shopping centres, a twice weekly market and with

its regeneration, new and exciting restaurants, pubs and cafes, with its hustle and bustle a busy place to visit. The Riverside town of Stourport on Severn with its historic Canal Basin fairground and river boats is a must. The Wyre Forest itself is an unspoilt natural beauty, full of exciting paths, trails and wildlife. All in all - The Wyre Forest really is a hidden gem that should be on your places to visit.



## HALLOWEEN AT THE SWAN CENTRE

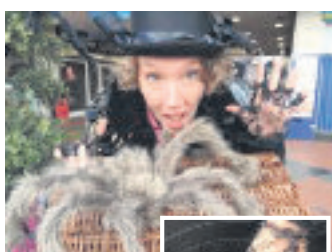
The Swan Centre are hosting a Halloween event on Saturday 27th October 10am-4pm where younger shoppers can take part in some spooky art and craft activities.

It's a chance for them to enjoy the atmosphere and excitement of Halloween in a safe and fun environment.

Children will be able to take part in slime making workshops, create their own witch or wizard hat and the brave at heart can dip into one of the special cauldrons to see if they can pull out a

hidden object to win a prize.

Everyone is welcome to turn up in fancy dress and to pose in front of the haunting backdrop, totting must-have Halloween accessories.



All activities are FREE OF CHARGE.



## BENCH ART AT THE SWAN CENTRE



The fourth bench in the Swan Centre's bench art competition will be revealed on Saturday 24th November. The design on the bench heralds the arrival of the winter season and unveiling it marks the start of Christmas celebrations at the centre.

Younger shoppers will be invited to make their own Christmas stocking, write a letter to Santa and to enjoy a special cookie on the bench.



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## Best seller brought to life at Rep

Alice Sebold's global best seller, *The Lovely Bones*, is being brought to life on stage for the first time at Birmingham Rep this month.

Adapted by award-winning writer Bryony Lavery and directed by Melly Still, *The Lovely Bones* opens on Tuesday and runs until Saturday, November 10.

Sebold's tale captured hearts after it was published in 2002. An unforgettable examination of life after loss, it's main protagonist Susie Salmon is a murdered teenager, who watches over her family and friends as they try to put their lives back together. She also watches her killer.

American writer Sebold will be visiting Birmingham for a special 'In Conversation' at The Rep on Thursday, November 1.

Playwright Lavery said: "I've found that the huge story is very, very happy to change its medium and reveal its treasures on The Rep's main stage. I am a most fortunate playwright."

In the 10-strong cast, Susie will be played by Charlotte Beaumont, who played Chloe Latimer in TV series *Broadchurch*.

Writer Lavery's previous work includes the Tony Award-nominated *Frozen*, which premiered at The Rep in 1998 and was revived in the West End this year. Director Still's credits include the acclaimed *Olivier* and Tony Award-nominated production of *Coram Boy* (National Theatre and Broadway).

For tickets see [birmingham-rep.co.uk](http://birmingham-rep.co.uk) or call 0121 236 4455.

Mary Stevens Hospice  
Pantomime Company



## Panto fans have a ball

The Mary Stevens Hospice Pantomime Company will be putting on a fundraising performance of *Cinderella* at Stourbridge Town Hall with guest star Donchez Dacres.

Following the success of their three-show sell-out debut production of *The Wizard of Oz* at Brierley Hill Civic Hall back in January, the company are bringing all the magic of the classic fairy tale to the stage across five performances between November 28 and 30, with some performances already sold out.

After the widely-acclaimed performance of the X-Factor's Wagner as The Wizard in the previous production, the hospice committed to including a celebrity special guest in the cast once again, this time in the form of Donchez. Fresh from finishing third on Britain's Got Talent this year with his catchy Wiggle and Wine song, Wolverhampton-based Donchez has agreed to support the Stourbridge hospice by performing in all five shows, although details of his role are being kept as a surprise.

The 61-year-old AA man captured the hearts of the nation with his song, which prompted

David Walliams to hit the iconic golden buzzer to send him straight through to the semi-final of the nationwide talent competition.

Tickets for the show can be booked online at: [www.seaty.co.uk/cinderella](http://www.seaty.co.uk/cinderella) and for group, school or company bookings call (01384) 377 778 to speak to the Hospice fundraising team. Or to find out more about the work of the Mary Stevens Hospice, visit [www.marystevenshospice.co.uk](http://www.marystevenshospice.co.uk) website. All money raised through the show will be donated directly towards families relying on the care of the Mary Stevens Hospice.

## Little Mix gig tickets go on sale

Pop superstars Little Mix have announced The LM5 Tour, a massive UK arena tour for 2019 and will be coming to the Genting Arena (soon to be Resorts World Arena) at Birmingham's NEC in just over a year's time.

The shows on Friday and Saturday, November 8 and 9, 2019, will see Little Mix perform songs from their new album LM5, alongside their greatest hits including Touch, Shout Out to My Ex, Black Magic and Wings. Little Mix have firmly established their reputation as one of the most phenomenal live acts around. This summer they toured the UK with the Summer Hits Tour.

Little Mix recently announced that their fifth album, LM5, will be released on November 16. The band have spent the year writing and recording the album with an A-List cast including Ed Sheeran, Jess Glynne, Camille Purcell, MNEK, and Timberland. The girls themselves have described it as 'the album we always wanted to make'. The album's first single Woman Like Me, featuring Nicki Minaj, was released last week. The harmony-led, urban, reggae pop smash immediately hit the top spot on iTunes around the world. Since 2011, Little Mix - Perrie Edwards, Jesy Nelson, Leigh-Anne Pinnoch and Jade Thirlwall - have sold more than 45 million records worldwide.

Tickets are on general sale from 9am tomorrow (Friday) via [www.theticketfactory.com](http://www.theticketfactory.com) or by calling 0844 33 88 222

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## AT YOUR LEISURE

The Proclaimers



## Brothers still Proclaiming, 31 years on from their debut

The Proclaimers are set to fill Symphony Hall, Birmingham, on Monday as part of an extensive UK tour.

The singing Scottish siblings released their 11th studio album in the summer, which was followed by a series of sold out shows in their homeland.

Twins Craig and Charlie Reid

emerged 31 years ago with their debut album *This Is The Story* and top three single *Letter from America*. But the duo from Auchtermuchty are best known for *I'm Gonna Be (500 Miles)*, which after reaching number 11 in the UK chart in 1998 (number 1 in Australia and New Zealand), was re-recorded with Peter Kay to top the chart for Comic Relief in 2007.

They inspired musical, play and

film *Sunshine on Leith*. The musical is rumoured to be heading to London's West End next year.

The new album includes *Streets Of Edinburgh*, a tribute to the city of their birth, *You Make Me Happy* plus the political and socially aware *Classy* and *Looted*.

Support for The Proclaimers gig in Birmingham comes from Irish singer-songwriter Jack Lukeman.

## No Dutch courage needed for Caro at Symphony Hall

She's as polished and classy as it gets.

Following five star reviews and sold out shows, the gorgeous and stylish Caro Emerald is back with a brand new live UK tour for 2018, which includes a concert at Symphony Hall, Birmingham, on Tuesday.

Since the release of her 2010 multi-platinum debut album *Deleted Scenes From The Cutting Room Floor*, the Dutch singer and her producers Grandmono have fashioned their own niche, blending retro jazz with sampling and modern pop, starring Caro's smooth vocals. The result is a unique signature sound to go with a glamorous look that suggests a Hollywood icon of yesteryear.

Her second album *The Shocking Miss Emerald* entered the Official UK Album Chart at No 1 in May 2013, remaining in the chart for an entire year.

"This tour is the best thing ever," she says. "I'm thrilled to be coming back to Birmingham's Symphony Hall. I've been there lots of times so I know the surroundings and the neighbourhood."

"Places like the Symphony Hall and the Royal Albert Hall, which I'm playing for the third time, are out of the ordinary. They are very special."

"The Symphony Hall is a fantastic venue with so much atmosphere and when you play you can feel how special it is. Being there helps to lift my performance."



Caro Emerald – unique

## It's been a loff but now I'm off, says Doreen

COMEDY queen of the Black Country Doreen Tipton has said that her latest live tour will be her last and she is promising 'to go out with a bang'.

The feckless, deadpan character, played by actress Gill Jordan, will bid farewell after her Doreen's Big Top tour which calls at Wolverhampton's Grand Theatre next Friday, November 2.

The self-professed 'lazy cow', created by Gill and writer David Tristram, has hinted at a mysterious new venture, so maybe we haven't seen the last of her.

"This will be our sixth live show, and we've had a wonderful time doing them," says Gill. "But planning for the live tour starts virtually a year before with the writing process, preparing videos, theming, booking venues, marketing, rehearsing and so on. By the time you finally complete the tour itself you then have to start planning the following year's tour almost immediately. This leaves no time for exploring other projects, new avenues, as you get trapped in a cycle of writing, planning, rehearsing, touring, then writing again. We think the time is right to break the mould and try something different."

## Black Eyed Peas to celebrate anniversary

The Black Eyed Peas are back – will.i.am, apl.de.ap and Taboo will line up at Birmingham's O2 Academy on Monday as part of their first headline tour in eight years.

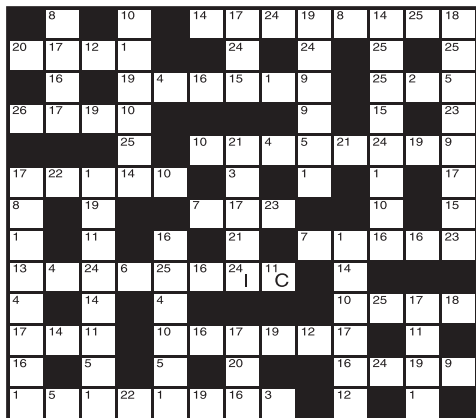
The Black Eyed Peas formed in 1992 in Los Angeles though their roots go back to 1988, when eighth-graders William Adams (will.i.am) and Allen Pineda (apl.de.ap) began rapping and performing together around LA. Later they were joined by Jaime Luis Gomez (Taboo) and singer Fergie, who left the Peas for a solo career.

They enjoyed hits with *Where Is The Love?*, *Shut Up*, *Don't Phunk with My Heart*, *Don't Lie*, *My Humps*, and *Pump It*, among others. The hip hop/pop group have released seven chart-topping studio albums. Meanwhile, will.i.am has won a whole new group of fans as the most enigmatic and humorous of the judges and mentors on TV talent show *The Voice*.

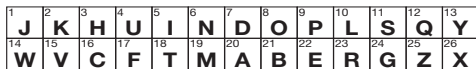
Fans can look forward to a greatest hits selection. The group has also premiered an explosive new single and video entitled *Get It* which looks at social issues such as police brutality and immigration.

## Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.



LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:



## Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues – both fit the same grid.

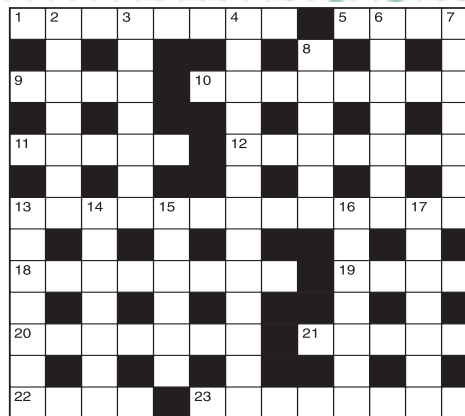
### Cryptic Clues:

#### Across

- One abandoned by players on opponent's ground (8)
- Copied some cheap editions (4)
- Store between 180 and 270 degrees (4)
- Conscientious objections (8)
- This Jack has three crosses to bear (5)
- Hide in N. Africa (7)
- Show off? (2,11)
- He sees to a minor charge (8)
- Sweet and sour (4)
- Ends an interim arrangement (7)
- Present part of 10 Down (5)
- A vessel we turn and turn about (4)
- Shame! (8)

#### Down

- A new notion for the Merchant of Venice (7)
- Drawing line (3-4)
- Taking in, being obliging (13)
- It has a large bill in place perhaps (7)
- Arrange to order (7)
- Business may be started with it (6)
- Garment shortened – after dark that is (7)
- It was plain to early American settlers (7)
- Tree used in sacred fires (3,3)
- Not many can provide a word of opposite meaning (7)
- It's funny, there's nothing in the box (7)



### Quick Clues:

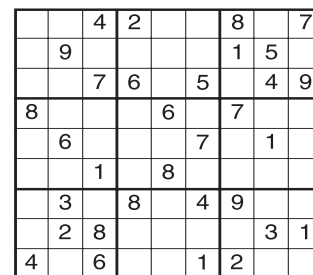
#### Across

- Assessment (8)
- Fish-pond (4)
- Replete (4)
- Reasoning (8)
- Railing (5)
- Finger protector (7)
- Somersaulting (4,4,5)
- Pastoral (8)
- Apiece (4)
- Opening (7)
- Scatter (5)
- Band (4)
- Candidate (8)

#### Down

- Trip (7)
- Maltreated (3-4)
- Reverse fortunes (4,3,6)
- Quake (7)
- Testimony (7)
- Stubborn (6)
- Trial (7)
- Sale (7)
- Decree (6)
- Voter (7)
- Reading desk (7)

## Sudoku



Fill in the grid above so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

### LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS >

8	2	9	4	1	3	6	7	5
4	5	3	7	9	6	2	8	1
7	6	1	5	8	2	4	9	3
2	7	5	8	3	9	1	6	4
9	3	8	1	6	4	5	2	7
6	1	4	2	5	7	9	3	8
5	4	6	9	7	8	3	1	2
3	8	2	6	4	1	7	5	9
1	9	7	3	2	5	8	4	6

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS: CRYPTIC – Across: 1 Air-hostess; 7 Owing; 8 Aligned; 10 Enshroud; 11 Stet; 13 Shriek; 15 Gnomon; 17 Dock; 18 Mail-boat; 21 Saviour; 22 Set-to; 23 Grass widow. Down: 1 Aries; 2 Regarded; 3 Opaque; 4 Twin; 5 Sanctum; 6 Sobersides; 9 Detonation; 12 Analysed; 14 Recover; 16 Marrow; 19 On tow; 20 Bows. QUICK – Across: 1 Pleasant; 7 Blush; 8 Nonplus; 10 Reserved; 11 Mete; 13 Verbal; 15 Surest; 17 Arch; 18 Preserve; 21 Erudite; 22 Infer; 23 Pestilence. Down: 1 Pours; 2 Ethereal; 3 Sinner; 4 None; 5 Relieve; 6 Abbreviate; 9 Sweetheart; 12 Question; 14 Recluse; 16 Ordeal; 19 Rifle; 20 List.

## Quiz

- Which cartoonist and illustrator created the schoolgirls of St. Trinian's?
- Which king's eldest son was the Black Prince?
- What is the capital of the Lorraine region?
- Of which bird is the tragopan a type?
- Which band's drummer did Baywatch star Pamela Anderson marry and divorce?
- What, in economics, may be fixed or circulating?
- On the southern flank of which mountain is Delphi?
- Which boxer underwent surgery to remove a blood clot after his fight with Nigel Benn?
- Of what are bort, balas and carbonado varieties?
- Where did Billy Butlin open his first camp?

### Last week's solutions:

Quiz: 1 Echo; 2 Iceland; 3 Spanish dance; 4 Parish; 5 Oscar Wilde; 6 Philo Remington; 7 Lioness; 8 Lake Michigan; 9 Story of Esther; 10 Travis.

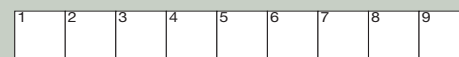
### Niner: ROYALTIES

## Niner

Each number from 1 to 9 represents a different letter. Solve the clues and insert the letters in the appropriate squares to discover a word which uses all nine letters.

7988  
7612  
34519

gives a Scottish inventor,  
gives a second Scottish inventor,  
gives a French-Polish scientist.



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## SKIPTON & GRASSINGTON

Christmas Markets

Departing Friday 7 Dec

This break combines the dramatic scenery of the Yorkshire Dales, one of the most picturesque landscapes in the country, with some of the region's most atmospheric Christmas festivals and markets – the perfect way to begin the festive season.

### Your break includes

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- ✓ 2 nights at our selected hotel with dinner & breakfast
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- ✓ En-route visit to Skipton Yuletide Festival

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Single supplement £25



## ANDRÉ RIEU

at the Echo Arena, Liverpool

Departing Friday 14 Dec

Violin master André Rieu has announced a new UK 2018 tour including a date at the Echo Arena in Liverpool! See the 'King of Waltz' perform with his 60-piece Johann Strauss Orchestra where he will play songs from his repertoire alongside Christmas carols.

### Your break includes

- ✓ Return coach travel from Halesowen, Dudley & Stourbridge
- ✓ Overnight stay at a selected hotel with breakfast
- ✓ Ticket to André Rieu concert at the Echo Arena, Liverpool (upper tier)
- ✓ En-route visit to Manchester Christmas Market

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& the Norfolk Broads

Departing Monday 25 Feb

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- ✓ Excursions to Aldeburgh & the Norfolk Broads by coach (Wroxham, Horning & Potter Heigham)

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# AT YOUR LEISURE

## CHOICE



Claudia Winkleman

### Strictly Come Dancing - Halloween Special (BBC1, 6.50pm)

For Movie Week, the unsung heroes of Strictly's hair, make-up and wardrobe departments managed to transform Stacey Dooley and Kevin Clifton into a pair of jiving, bright yellow minions and got Graeme Swann to do the Charleston dressed as Spider-Man. So just imagine what they are planning for this year's Halloween special... As ever, Tess Daly and Claudia Winkleman will be introducing the couples, while Shirley Ballas, Darcey Bussell, Craig Revel Horwood and Bruno Tonioli will be deciding which dances were a treat, and who should have added a few more tricks to their repertoire.

## BBC1

**6.00** Breakfast. **10.00** Saturday Kitchen Live. **11.30** Classic Mary Berry. (R) **12.00** Football Focus. **1.00** BBC News; Weather. **1.15** Invictus Games 2018. **2.00** Live International Rugby League. England v New Zealand (Kick-off 2.30pm). **4.30** Final Score. **5.10** BBC News. **5.20** Regional Programme. **5.30** Invictus Games 2018.

**6.00** **Pointless Celebrities.** Alexander Armstrong and Richard Osman present a sci-fi edition of the general knowledge quiz. The teams playing for charity are classic Doctor Who stars Peter Davison and Katy Manning, Blake's 7's Paul Darrow and Michael Keating, Red Dwarf's Hattie Hayridge and Harry Potter's Jessie Cave, and Star Wars actors Kiran Shah and Jimmy Vee.

**6.50** **Strictly Come Dancing - Halloween Special.** Tess Daly and Claudia Winkleman host a spooky episode of the dance contest, with the remaining 11 pairs competing to impress judges Shirley Ballas, Dame Darcey Bussell, Bruno Tonioli and Craig Revel Horwood and the viewers with their talents.

**8.35** **Casualty.** Base works for Ross in his meth lab to pay off his debts. He collects 16-year-old Harry to work with them, and watches on as Ross physically asserts his authority over the teenager. Duffy wakes up in a hotel room having slept with Bill. Full of guilt, she sends him away and gets ready to leave. On her way out, she hears a call for help and reluctantly treats Naima, who was found passed out in the hotel swimming pool.

**9.25** **Killing Eve.** Carolyn brings unwelcome news and a change of priorities, but Eve is closer than she has ever been to Villanelle, and is finally going to meet Anna.

**10.10** **BBC News.** Weather.

**10.30** **Match of the Day.** Gary Lineker presents highlights of the latest Premier League matches, including Liverpool v Cardiff City at Anfield and Leicester City v West Ham United at the King Power Stadium.

**11.50** **The NFL Show.** Mark Chapman is joined by former players Osi Umenyiora and Jason Bell to present highlights of Houston Texans v Miami Dolphins.

**12.20** **Film:** The Borderlands. (2013)

**1.45** Weather for the Week Ahead.

**1.50** BBC News.

## BBC2

**6.45** Top Class. (R) **7.15** All Over the Place: Europe. **7.45** Wild & Weird. **8.00** Absolute Genius with Dick & Dom. (R) **8.30** Got What It Takes? **9.00** Elephant Diaries. (R) **9.30** Elephant Diaries. (R) **10.00** Natural World: Saving Luna. (R) **11.00** Homes Under the Hammer. (R) **12.00** Rick Stein: From Venice to Istanbul. (R) **1.00** Wanted Down Under. (R) **2.00** Escape to the Country. (R) **3.00** Britain's Ultimate Pilots: Inside the RAF. (R) **4.00** Saving Lives at Sea. (R) **5.00** Letterbox. **5.30** A House Through Time. **6.30** **Dad's Army.** Mainwaring finds a German pilot trapped on top of the town clock by his parachute, so the platoon attempts a rescue mission. (R)

**7.00** **Mediterranean with Simon Reeve.** Simon travels through Libya, visiting areas of the country devastated by recent fighting as well as one of the world's best preserved ancient Roman cities. He moves on to Tunisia, where he discovers a mountain fortress and meets a man keeping ancient Berber traditions alive, including making olive oil with the help of camels. Finally, he crosses the sea to Sicily, and discovers how the Mafia are attempting to take advantage of declining population numbers. (R)

**8.00** **Elizabeth I's Secret Agents.** The Earl of Essex tries to take over Robert Cecil's spy network to gain control over the ageing Elizabeth I and hold the power to choose the next King of England. (R)

**9.00** **Black Hollywood: "They've Gotta Have Us".** A look at the future facing black film-makers, examining the impact of high-profile successes such as Black Panther and the Oscar-winning Moonlight and Get Out. Last in the series.

**10.00** **Qi XL.** Sandi Toksvig and Alan Davies are joined in this extended edition by Jimmy Carr, Gyles Brandreth and Sally Phillips, who answer questions on the subject of piecemeal.

**10.45** **Snowfall.** Franklin realises it's time to step his whole operation up a gear.

**11.30** **Later Weekend with Jools Holland.** The pianist welcomes artists including New York rockers Interpol, Buzzy Malone, Rag'n'Bone Man, Fantastic Negrito and Another Sky.

**12.35** **Film:** Cosmopolis. (2012) **1.15** (GMT) Trust. (R) **2.05** This Is BBC Two.

## ITV

**6.00** CITV: Dino Dana. **6.10** Super 4. (R) **6.25** Super 4. (R) **6.35** Make It Pop. (R) **6.55** Signed Stories: Share a Story. (R) **7.05** Mr Bean: The Animated Series. (R) **7.15** Mr Bean: The Animated Series. (R) **7.30** Scrambled!: Scrambled! **7.35** Scrambled!: The Tom and Jerry Show. (R) **7.50** Scrambled!: The Powerpuff Girls. (R) **8.10** Scrambled!: ToonMarty. (R) **8.30** Scrambled!: Robozuna. **9.05** Scrambled!: Mighty Magiswords. (R) **9.25** ITV News. **9.30** James Martin's Saturday Morning. **11.40** Countrywise. (R) **12.05** ITV News: Weather. **12.15** Midsomer Murders. (R) **2.10** The X Factor. (R) **3.15** Catchphrase. (R) **4.00** Tipping Point. **5.00** The Chase. (R) **5.55** ITV News: Weather.

**6.10** **Regional Programme:** Weather.

**6.20** **Film: Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 2.** (2011) The teenage wizard continues his search for the artefacts containing fragments of the dark lord Voldemort's soul. Time is running out, as the evil sorcerer is aware of Harry's mission, and marshals his forces for a final, devastating attack on Harry and his friends at Hogwarts school. Conclusion of the fantasy saga, with Daniel Radcliffe, Ralph Fiennes, Rupert Grint, Emma Watson and Alan Rickman.

**8.35** **The X Factor.** Dermot O'Leary hosts the second week of live shows, with the remaining acts performing to impress judges Simon Cowell, Louis Tomlinson, Robbie Williams and Ayda Williams – as well as the viewing public at home. This year, Simon will be coaching the Girls. Louis has the Boys, Robbie will take on the Groups and Ayda has the Overs.

**10.35** **The Jonathan Ross Show.** The host is joined on the sofa by guests Brendan O'Carroll, the man behind Mrs Brown, Emma Willis and Chabuddy G, while Boyzone perform live and discuss their farewell tour.

**11.40** **ITV News:** Weather. **12.00** Play to the Whistle. With Jonathan Ross, Chris Kamara and Jack P Shepherd. (R) **12.45** Jackpot247. Viewers get the chance to participate in live interactive gaming from the comfort of their sofas, with a mix of roulette-wheel spins and lively chat from the presenting team. **3.00** (GMT) Long Lost Family. (R) **3.50** ITV Nightscreen. Text-based information service.

## CHANNEL 4

**6.50** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **7.15** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **7.40** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **8.05** Frasier. (R) **8.30** Frasier. (R) **9.00** Frasier. (R) **9.30** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **10.00** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **10.30** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **11.00** The Simpsons. (R) **11.30** The Simpsons. (R) **12.00** Come Dine with Me. (R) **1.00** Four in a Bed. (R) **1.30** Four in a Bed. (R) **2.00** Four in a Bed. (R) **2.30** Four in a Bed. (R) **3.00** Four in a Bed. (R) **3.30** A Place in the Sun: Winter Sun. (R) **4.30** A Place in the Sun: Winter Sun. (R) **5.35** Escape to the Chateau: DIY. (R)

**6.30** **Channel 4 News.**

**7.00** **Film: Transformers: Dark of the Moon.** (2011) The heroic autobots discover that a spaceship from their own planet crashed into the moon decades ago, carrying their former leader and an incredibly powerful device. They must fight to defend the human race as their enemies the decepticons plot to use this machine to rebuild their own world and destroy the Earth. Sci-fi adventure sequel, with Shia LaBeouf, Josh Duhamel and Rosie Huntington-Whiteley. Edited for language and violence.

**10.00** **Formula 1 Mexican Grand Prix Qualifying Highlights.** Steve Jones presents action from the battle for pole position at the 19th round of the season, which took place at Autodromo Hermanos Rodriguez in Mexico City.

**11.35** **Film: The Mortal Instruments: City of Bones.** (2013) A teenager discovers she is part of a race of magical beings tasked with defending the world from demons. Fantasy adventure, with Lily Collins and Jamie Campbell Bower.

**1.45** **Experimental.** Tim builds a vacuum-powered climbing kit. Last in the series. (R) **1.40** (GMT) Hollyoaks. Omnibus. The day of Ste and Harry's wedding arrives, and Lily enlists Prince and Zack to help with the decorations. Meanwhile, James uses Romeo to help him expose his affair. (R) **3.45** Kirstie's Handmade Treasures. Kirstie Allsopp joins a Women's Institute group. (R) **4.00** French Collection. Three collectors upcycle goods from a Toulouse market. (R) **4.55** Building the Dream. A couple pursues their dream of living mortgage-free. Last in the series. (R) **5.50** The King of Queens. Doug worries he might be losing touch with Carrie. (R)

## CHANNEL 5

**6.00** Milkshake! **9.50** Rise of the Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. (R) **10.25** The Secret Life of Puppies: Terrible Twos. (R) **11.10** Police Interceptors. (R) **12.05** Police Interceptors. (R) **1.05** Police Interceptors. (R) **2.00** Film: Free Willy. (1993) Family drama, starring Jason James Richter. **3.00** Access. **3.05** Film: Free Willy. (1993) Concluded. **4.20** Rich House, Poor House. (R) **5.20** Bad Tenants, Rogue Landlords. (R)

**6.15** **Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away!** Two enforcement agents make a shocking discovery in a child's bedroom during an eviction, and a debtor gets physical when he is visited over wages owed to a freelancer. (R)

**7.00** **Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away!** High Court enforcement officers Paul, Steve and Ben make a shocking discovery when they break into a home while serving an eviction notice on a single mother and her two children. (R)

**8.00** **Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away!** High Court enforcement officers Paul Bohill and Steve and Ben Pinner face their biggest eviction yet, as they take on squatters in a large London office block. (R)

**8.55** **5 News Weekend.**

**9.00** **Fury vs Pulev: Live Boxing.** Hughie Fury v Kubrat Pulev. Coverage of the heavyweight bout, which takes place at Arena Armeec in Sofia, Bulgaria. Britain's Fury – the cousin of former world heavyweight champion Tyson – lost his only world title contest in September last year to then-WBO champion Joseph Parker, but bounced back from that loss in May, defeating Sam Sexton to win the British title. Home fighter Pulev also has one loss on his record, a knockout defeat to Wladimir Klitschko in 2014, but is undefeated in five contests since then.

**10.30** **Film: Carrie.** (2013) A teenage girl finally snaps and uses her psychic powers to avenge herself on the bullies who tormented her. Horror remake, starring Chloë Grace Moretz and Julianne Moore.

**11.30** **Access.** Showbiz news.

**11.35** **Film: Carrie.** (2013) Concluded. **12.25** **Film:** Silent Hill: Revelation. (2012) **1.00** (GMT) SuperCasino. **3.10** GPs: Behind Closed Doors. (R) **4.00** Now That's Funny! (R) **4.45** Wildlife SOS. (R) **5.10** House Doctor. (R) **5.35** House Busters. (R)

## DIGITAL

**BBC Four** **7.00** Natural World Special: My Life as a Turkey **8.00** Life Story **9.00** 54 Hours: The Gladbeck Hostage Crisis **10.30** There Goes 11.00 Top of the Pops: 1986 **12.00** Britain's Most Dangerous Songs: Listen to the Banned **1.00** Neil Sedaka: King of Song **1.00** (GMT) Knights of Classic Drama at the BBC **2.00** Natural World Special: My Life as a Turkey

**ITV2**

**12.05** You've Been Framed! Gold **12.35** Film: Step Up 3 (2010) **1.40** FYI Daily **1.45** Film: Step Up 3 (2010) **2.50** Film: Beethoven (1992) **4.35** Film: Casper (1995) **6.40** Film: The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King (2003) **10.35** Celebrity Juice: Halloween Special **11.20** Family Guy **12.45** American Dad! **1.40** Don't Hate the Playaz **1.45** (GMT) Release the Hounds **2.35** Totally Bonkers Guinness World Records **3.00** Teleshopping **4.55** ITV2 Nightscreen

**ITV3**

**12.50** Film: Agatha Christie's Sparkling Cyanide (2003) **2.30** Agatha Christie's Point of View **7.00** Midsomer Murders **9.00** Endeavour **11.00** Inspector Morse **1.25** A Touch of Frost **2.10** (GMT) ITV3 Nightscreen **2.30** Teleshopping

**ITV4**

**11.20** The Big Fish Off **12.25** The Motorbike Show **1.30** ITV Racing Live from Cheltenham. **2.20** World Cup Rivalries: England v Argentina **4.40** Pawn Stars **5.10** Film: The Scorpion King (2002) **6.10** FYI Daily **6.15** Film: The Scorpion King (2002) **7.00** Darts: European Championship Live. Coverage of day three of the event from Dortmund, Germany. **11.00** Film: Pale Rider (1985) **12.00** FYI Daily **12.05** Film: Pale Rider (1985) **1.20** The Americans **1.25** (GMT) Minder **2.20** The Protectors **2.45** ITV4 Nightscreen **3.00** Teleshopping

**E4**

**1.00** Film: Father of the Bride (1991) **3.05** The Great British Bake Off **4.25** Rude(s)h Tube Shorts **4.35** The Big Bang Theory **9.00** Film: Fast & Furious 6 (2013) **11.35** Gogglebox **1.40** Celebs Go Dating **1.45** (GMT) Celebs Go Dating **2.35** Celebs Go Dating

**Film4**

**11.00** Dragonball Evolution (2009) **12.50** Dr Dolittle (1998) **2.20** Flash Gordon (1980) **4.30** Bohemian Rhapsody Interview Special **4.40** Cheaper By the Dozen (2003) **6.35** The Second Best Exotic Marigold Hotel (2015) **9.00** World War Z (2013) **11.15** The Other Side of the Door (2016) **1.10** Inferno (1980) **2.40** (GMT) Close

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CHOICE



**Reece Shearsmith and Steve Pemberton**  
**Inside No 9 Live (BBC2, 10pm)**  
Over the years this series has given us some of the most chilling, clever and downright bizarre half-hour stories any fan of spooky tales could wish for. And now Steve Pemberton and Reece Shearsmith have penned Dead Line, a live show which, if we're lucky, will prove as captivating as that other live Hallows'en classic, Ghostwatch from 1992. It centres on Arthur Flitwick (Pemberton) who finds an old mobile phone in his local graveyard. It seems like a good idea to try and contact the owner, but as the spookiest time of the year draws near, Arthur is soon immersed in a nightmare of his own making. Apparently no good deed can go unpunished, in this world or the next.

BBC1

**6.00 (GMT)** Breakfast. **8.40** Match of the Day. (R) **10.00** The Andrew Marr Show. **11.00** Regional Programme. **11.30** Sunday Morning Live. **12.30** Bargain Hunt. (R) **1.00** BBC News: Weather. **1.15** Escape to the Country. (R) **2.00** Points of View. **2.15** Songs of Praise. **2.50** Film: Oz the Great and Powerful. (2013) Fantasy adventure, starring James Franco. **4.55** Scared Shrekless. (R) **5.15** BBC News. **5.35** Regional Programme. **5.45** Countryside Ramble for BBC Children in Need. **7.00** **Doctor Who**. The Doctor brings her friends back home to 21st-century Sheffield, only to discover there is something strange going on involving all the city's spiders. Chris Noth guest stars. **7.50** **Strictly Come Dancing: The Results**. Tess Daly and Claudia Winkleman reveal the results of the Halloween special, as two more couples compete in a dance-off. Featuring a special musical performance by Rita Ora. **8.30** **Still Open All Hours**. Granville invests in a giant balloon for advertising purposes, and has to come up with the best sales pitch he can muster to persuade his customers to buy tins of smoked oysters. **9.00** **The Little Drummer Girl**. New series. Spy drama set in the 1970s, following the aftermath of a bombing in East Germany. An Israeli intelligence operative investigates, and discovers a connection to a series of assassination attempts against prominent Jewish figures around the world. In London, a struggling actress accepts the offer of a holiday in Greece, leading her to a whirlwind romance that draws her into the agent's operation. **10.00** BBC News. **10.20** Regional Programme. **10.30** **Match of the Day 2**. A review of the day's Premier League action, featuring Burnley v Chelsea at Turf Moor, Crystal Palace v Arsenal at Selhurst Park and Manchester United v Everton at Old Trafford. **11.30** **The Women's Football Show**. Highlights of the weekend's games in the Super League, and a look at the biggest issues in the women's game. **12.05** The Apprentice. (R) **1.05** The Apprentice: You're Fired. (R) **1.35** Weather. **1.40** BBC News.

BBC2

**6.20 (GMT)** Around the World in 80 Gardens. (R) **7.20** Carol Klein's Plant Odyssey. (R) **7.50** The Instant Gardener. (R) **8.35** Countryside. (R) **9.30** The Beechgrove Garden. **10.00** Saturday Kitchen Best Bites. **11.30** The Hairy Bikers' Asian Adventure. (R) **12.30** Sweets Made Simple. (R) **1.00** NFL Live. Jacksonville Jaguars v Philadelphia Eagles (Kick-off 1.30pm). **5.00** Hog It! (R) **5.30** Letterbox. **6.00** **Britain's Classroom Heroes 2018**. Anita Rani and Sean Fletcher host the annual Pearson Teaching Awards celebrating outstanding teachers from all over the UK, shining a spotlight on the work they do every day to make a difference to children's lives. This year marks the 20th anniversary of the awards, with the introduction of a new category for School of the Year. With celebrity guests on hand to present the accolades, and an exclusive performance from the cast of the popular West End show Everybody's Talking About Jamie, this promises to be a special evening of celebration. **7.00** **Nature's Wildest Weapons: Horns, Tusks and Antlers: Natural World**. Professor Doug Emlen examines how animals use their bodies as weapons, from elephants to rhinoceros beetles. (R) **8.00** **Mediterranean with Simon Reeve**. The final leg of the journey takes in Morocco, where Simon visits a land border between Africa and the European Union, before moving on to Spain and Corsica. Last in the series. **9.00** **Last Chance Lawyer New York City**. Howard takes on a major murder trial, and tries to prove the defendant's claim that he was protecting a woman who was being stalked by the man he killed. Last in the series. **10.00** **Inside No 9 Live**. A special live episode for Halloween, in which a man finds a mobile phone in a graveyard and tries to return it to its owner, only to be drawn into a nightmare of his own making. **10.30** **The Mash Report**. Nish Kumar and a cast of comedy correspondents present the satirical and surreal take on the week's news. (R) **11.00** **Film: The Ring**. (2002) Horror remake, with Naomi Watts. **12.45** Sign Zone: Question Time. **1.45** Holby City. (R) **2.45** This Is BBC Two.

ITV

**6.00 (GMT)** CITV: (GMT) Dino Dana. **6.10** Super 4. (R) **6.25** Super 4. (R) **6.35** Make It Pop. (R) **6.55** Signed Stories: Share a Story. (R) **7.05** Robozuna. (R) **7.30** Scrambled! Scrambled! **7.35** Scrambled!: The Tom and Jerry Show. (R) **7.50** Scrambled!: Ben 10. (R) **8.10** Scrambled!: The Bagel and Becky Show. (R) **8.30** Scrambled!: The Haunted Hathaways. (R) **9.05** Scrambled!: Mighty Magiswords! (R) **9.25** ITV News. **9.30** Love Your Garden. (R) **10.25** Emmerdale 1918. (R) **10.55** Martin Lewis: 10 Things Your Kids Need to Know. (R) **11.55** The Big Audition. (R) **12.50** ITV News. **1.00** The X Factor. (R) **3.00** Back to Mine. **3.30** Tenable. (R) **4.30** The Chase. (R) **5.30** Tipping Point: Lucky Stars. (R) **6.30** **ITV News: Weather**. **6.45** **Regional Programme: Weather**. **7.00** **The Chase Celebrity Special**. Bradley Walsh presents as celebrity contestants Dan Harmer, Eddie Hall, Chemmy Alcott and Alex Horne pit their wits against ruthless quiz genius the Chaser in the hope of winning a potential prize pot worth thousands of pounds. They must work as a team and play strategically to answer general knowledge questions against the clock and race down the game board to the exit without being caught. **8.00** **The X Factor**. Talent contest, hosted by Dermot O'Leary, in which solo singers and groups compete to win a recording contract. **9.00** **Butterfly**. Vicky forges Stephen's signature to obtain consent for Maxine's treatment, but he has already reported her to the police and she is arrested on her return home. Last in the series. **10.00** **ITV News: Weather**. **10.20** **Gordon Ramsay on Cocaine**. First in a two-part documentary in which chef Gordon Ramsay investigates the cocaine trade, seeing how the drug is made and witnessing the arrest of couriers on their way to a deal. (R) **11.20** **Gordon, Gino and Fred: Road Trip**. The trio tour Gordon Ramsay's birthplace of Scotland, searching for ingredients for a grand feast, while also finding time to take part in the Highland Games. (R) **12.15** Strangers. (R) **1.05** Jackpot247. **3.00** Motorsport UK. (R) **3.50** **ITV Nightscreen**. **5.05** The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R)

CHANNEL 4

**6.15 (GMT)** The King of Queens. (R) **6.40** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **7.10** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **7.35** Frasier. (R) **8.00** Frasier. (R) **8.30** Frasier. (R) **8.55** Jamie Cooks Italy. (R) **9.30** Sunday Brunch. **12.30** The Simpsons. (R) **1.00** The Simpsons. (R) **1.30** **Film: Tooth Fairy**. (2010) Family comedy, starring Dwayne Johnson. **3.35** The Great British Bake Off. (R) **4.55** **Film: The Aristocats**. (1970) Animated Disney adventure, with the voice of Eva Gabor. **6.30** **Channel 4 News**. **7.00** **Phil Spencer's Stately Homes**. Phil is invited by Lord David Cholmondeley to visit Houghton Hall in Norfolk, built for Britain's first prime minister Robert Walpole, and attempts to discover how much it cost. He also discovers the story of a disreputable member of the Walpole family who sold the art collection and even the front steps of the house to pay his gambling debts. (R) **8.00** **Great Canal Journeys**. Timothy West and Prunella Scales explore the waterways of North-West England, from the suburbs of Manchester, through Britain's first purpose-built canal, to the port at Ellesmere. They discover how canals played a vital role in transforming Britain during the Industrial Revolution, and have subsequently become a central point of Manchester's gay community. **9.00** **Film: Deepwater Horizon**. (2016) Premiere. An oil rig in the Gulf of Mexico is beset by technical difficulties – but executives from the company behind the project ignore the warning signs and demand work proceeds as normal, despite warnings from key engineers on site. The situation rapidly gets out of control, leading to the worst environmental disaster in US history. Drama, starring Mark Wahlberg. **11.00** **Formula 1 Mexican Grand Prix Highlights**. Steve Jones presents action from the 19th round of the season, which took place at Autodromo Hermanos Rodriguez in Mexico City. **1.15** **Film: Little Men**. (2016) **2.45** The Great British Bake Off: An Extra Slice. (R) **3.40** Building the Dream. (R) **4.35** French Collection. (R) **5.25** Buy It Now. (R) **5.50** Countdown. (R)

CHANNEL 5

**6.00 (GMT)** Milkshake!: (GMT) Peppa Pig. **6.05** Peppa Pig. (R) **6.10** Peppa Pig. (R) **6.15** Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom. (R) **6.30** Luo Bao Bei. (R) **6.40** Digby Dragon. (R) **6.50** Fireman Sam. (R) **7.00** Thomas & Friends. (R) **7.15** Bob the Builder. (R) **7.25** Rusty Rivets. **7.45** Peppa Pig. (R) **7.50** Peppa Pig. (R) **8.00** Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom. (R) **8.15** Paw Patrol. (R) **8.30** Nella the Princess Knight. **8.50** Shimmer and Shine. (R) **9.00** Pirata & Capitano. (R) **9.15** Noddy: Toyland Detective. (R) **9.35** Hoogs. (R) **9.50** Paw Patrol. (R) **10.00** Rise of the Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. (R) **10.20** Rise of the Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. (R) **10.35** Cruising with Jane McDonald. (R) **10.45** Criminals: Caught on Camera. (R) **11.10** Friends. (R) **11.40** Friends. (R) **12.10** Friends. (R) **12.40** Friends. (R) **1.10** Friends. (R) **1.40** Friends. (R) **2.05** Friends. (R) **2.35** Friends. (R) **3.05** Friends. (R) **3.35** Friends. (R) **4.05** **Film: Goosebumps**. (2015) **5.05** 5 News Update. **5.10** **Film: Goosebumps**. (2015) Concluded. **6.10** **The Lion Cub** from Harrods. Documentary telling the story of two Australian furniture salesmen who bought a lion cub from Harrods in 1969 and raised it themselves. (R) **7.00** **Inside Harrods: The World's Most Famous Department Store**. Documentary going behind the famous gold-and-green facade of the retailer, to explore the store's million square feet of shopping space, as well as the secrets of its success. **8.00** **Ice Road Truckers**. Art Burke hits a melting ice crossing and a load that is right at the weight limit. Steph Custance finds out whether she will be joining the Polar team. **8.55** **5 News Weekend**. **9.00** **Hitler's Holocaust Railways with Chris Tarrant**. Chris Tarrant explores the use of trains in transporting millions of prisoners to ghettos and death camps during the Holocaust. Featuring contributions from survivors. **10.30** **Big Brother**. **12.00** When Kids Kill: Beaten for Being Different. The heartbreaking story of a young couple who were attacked for how they looked. (R) **12.45** Helicopter Pursuits: Caught on Camera. A compilation of police helicopter chases. (R) **1.10** SuperCasino. **3.10** **Film: What I Did for Love**. (2006) **4.40** Access. **4.45** Wildlife SOS. (R) **5.10** House Doctor. (R) **5.35** House Busters. (R)

DIGITAL

**BBC Four**  
**7.00 (GMT)** Locomotion: Dan Snow's History of Railways 8.00 The Ghan: Australia's Greatest Train Journey **11.00** 1 Was a Yazidi Slave **12.00** Art of France **1.00** Timeshift: The Golden Age of Coach Travel **2.00** Timeshift: The Modern Age of The Coach **3.00** The Culture Show: Lego – The Building Blocks of Architecture **3.30** Close  
**ITV2**  
**12.30** Celebrity Catchphrase **1.35** You've Been Framed! Gold **2.35** **Film: Babe**: Pig in the City (1998) **3.35** **FYI Daily** **3.40** **Film: The Smurfs: The Legend of Smurfy Hollow** **4.55** **Film: Hotel Transylvania 2** (2015) **6.00** **FYI Daily** **6.05** **Film: Hotel Transylvania 2** (2015) **6.45** **Film: The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey** (2012) **7.50** **FYI Daily** **7.55** **Film: The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey** (2012) **10.00** Family Guy **11.30** American Dad! **12.25** The Cleveland Show **1.20** The Weekender: Boat Party **2.20** Teleshopping **5.50** **ITV2** Nightscreen  
**ITV3**  
**11.15** Bertie and Elizabeth **1.20** Agatha Christie's Poirot **3.20** **Film: Columbo: The Most Dangerous Match** (1973) **5.00** Foyle's War **9.00** Agatha Christie's Poirot **11.25** **Film: Chocolat** (2000) **1.40** Paul O'Grady's Animal Orphans **2.35** Murder, She Wrote **3.30** Road to Avonlea **5.10** Judge Judy **5.35** **ITV3** Nightscreen  
**ITV4**  
**11.20** Pawn Stars **12.45** Darts: European Championship Live. Coverage of day four of the event from Dortmund, Germany. **5.00** Pawn Stars **5.55** Made in Britain **7.00** Darts: European Championship Live. The semi-finals and final on day four of the event from Dortmund, Germany. **11.00** **Film: Saw** (2004) **12.00** **FYI Daily** **12.05** **Film: Saw** (2004) **1.05** The Avengers **2.15** Pawn Stars **2.20** **ITV4** Nightscreen **3.00** Teleshopping  
**E4**  
**12.35** Happy Together **1.05** New Girl **1.35** The Big Bang Theory **7.00** **Film: Crocodile Dundee** (1986) **9.00** Celebs Go Dating **10.00** Club Rep Wars **11.05** The Big Bang Theory **12.05** First Dates **1.10** Celebs Go Dating **2.15** Club Rep Wars **3.05** Rude Tube **3.30** Hollyoaks  
**Film4**  
**11.00 (GMT)** Carry On Regardless (1961) **12.50** Starman (1984) **3.05** Titanic (1997) **6.55** The Princess Bride (1987) **9.00** Kingsman: The Secret Service (2015) **11.40** The Taking of Deborah Logan (2014) **1.30** The Piper (2015) **3.45** Close

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- Up and Over
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- Made to measure
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- Remote Control
- Doors

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**HOUSEHOLD PLUMBING**  
(General Plumbing and Bathrooms)  
All installations and repairs  
Supply and fit or fit only

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No job too small. Friendly service. Free advice and quotes

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Fully guaranteed work  
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**KEEP IT LOCAL**  
**'No Job Too Small'**

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All domestic and commercial  
electrical works undertaken  
Home rewiring from £800

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**Gutter Cleaning Services**

**£40**  
per property

Are they blocked?  
Full of dirt, leaves & moss?  
Are they over flowing  
when it rains?  
Repairs Undertaken

**NO MESS NO RISK NO FUSS**

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Loft Ladders  
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We will  
beat  
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**A CHEAP RUBBISH REMOVAL 7 DAYS**  
Small Jobs NO PROBLEM  
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# Local Specialists



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- **FREE** local pick up and delivery
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**30 Years Experience**



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**MOT**  
**£27.99**  
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**MOT**

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**FREE ESTIMATES**  
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## Local Specialists



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SERVICES



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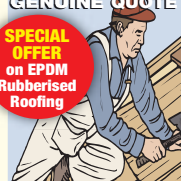
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All size skips and all areas covered  
Same day delivery faster than  
A phone call!!!

Open 7 days a week **SCRAP CARS REMOVED FOR FREE**  
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No Job Too Small

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**WE LOAD FOR YOU**

**GARDEN, HOUSE, FACTORY, SHOP AND LAND CLEARANCES**

From single items to large loads

**CHEAPER THAN A SKIP**

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Always a friendly service  
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ASA.org.uk

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**2**

E-mail us at...  
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**3**

Post to...  
Mark Moore, Halesowen Chronicle, Black Lake  
Regional Centre, West Bromwich B70 0QB

## Index

- 1 Family
- 2 Leisure Time
- 3 Home & Services
- 4 Pets & Animals
- 5 Business & Farming
- 6 Property
- 7 Jobs
- 8 Motoring
- 9 Local Information
- 10 Personals

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At your local Express & Star Office.  
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Halesowen  
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## 1 Family

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Stourbridge's longest established  
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WREKIN STAIRLIFTS recondi-  
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\*\*\*\*\*  
**All Caravans Wanted**  
Any Age or Condition  
**\*CASH WAITING\***  
\*\*\*\*\*  
Immediate collection  
Call Bill on 07825 325 913  
\*\*\*\*\*  
**TOURING CARAVAN WANTED.**  
No objection to work, anything  
considered. Please telephone  
07980 365757.

### Jumble Sales / Fetes

**BRIC-A-BRAC FAIR**  
Sunday, 28th October  
**KINVER COMMUNITY CENTRE, DY7 6ER**  
10.30am - 4pm  
Next Sale: 11th November  
Tel: 01384 894464

## 3 Home & Services

### Furniture

**BED** 4ft 6 double, luxury memory  
foam mattress, 2 drawer divan  
base, all unused, packaged, cost  
over £1,000, accept £235. 07787  
636984.

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SELL LOCAL**  
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**ClassifiedAds**

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Must have 14in main body.  
Needs to be 100 plus years old.  
Any condition considered.  
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### In Your Garden

**C B SHEDS & FENCING**  
We supply & fit. Free quotes.  
Call: **01922 720270**  
We also supply sleepers and decking

### Items For Sale

**CORRUGATED GALVANISED**  
Sheets. New. £8 can deliver.  
Also rooflights and box profile.  
David Broxton on 07834 489556.

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**A BEST CASH PRICE PAID FOR DIE CAST CARS / LOBBIES**  
Britains, Corgi, Dinky,  
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Best prices paid.  
Any condition.  
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Telephone **01922 327897**  
or **07976 691563.**

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**ALL MILITARIA ITEMS FROM WARS WANTED BY COLLECTOR**  
Swords, medals, helmets etc,  
single or full items.  
German, Japanese, British.  
Will collect.  
Very good prices paid.  
**07511 500337.**

## WANTED

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Old oil cans, bottles, shell, BP,  
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Will collect.  
Enamel signs, old posters  
Classic cars and garage  
clearances.

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**BEST CASH PRICE**  
**FOR ALL RAILWAY COLLECTIONS**  
Any gauge or age  
Hornby/Bachmann/Bowmans/  
Roundhouse/Craham/Farsh/  
any live steam. Also Die Cast,  
Corgi, Dinky, Spot On.  
**01384 836219/07891 713547**  
thetrainmaster67@  
hotmail.com

**READERS ARE ADVISED** to  
carefully consider all of their options  
before agreeing to the sale of any  
of their items.

**SPECTRUM GAMES** wanted plus  
any 48K or 128K+2 Spectrum com-  
puters wanted also any old crash or  
sinclair magazines 01902 992918.

**WANTED**  
Pre 1980 Plastic or Lead  
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Call **Daz 07498 036229**  
Best cash prices paid.

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**MICROWAVE, SHARP.** Breville  
toaster and kettle, in good working  
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## specialists at your service

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**A AERIAL & SKY ANY TV REPAIRS**  
Digital Aerials Fitted  
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Free Quotes. 7 days  
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**I am very pleased with the great response that I get from my Classified Advertising Contract.**

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Steve -  
AA Digital Aerials

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AERIALS FITTED FROM **£79.99**  
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**01543 439095 • 01922 716029**

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Supplied and Fitted **£249**  
Servicing and Repairs  
12 Months Warranty  
All areas covered  
All quotes beaten!  
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Cleaning Unbeatable Prices. OAP  
discounts. Call Paul 07870 341089

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**SPECIAL OFFER**  
10 Days of quality fencing, concrete posts,  
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Heavy duty panels supplied & fitted.  
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Mon - Fri 8am - 4.30pm  
Sat 8am - 12noon  
83 Portway Rd, W'bury  
**DELIVERY AVAILABLE**  
[www.portwayfencing.co.uk](http://www.portwayfencing.co.uk)

### House Clearances

**ABSOLUTE BEST** cash price paid  
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**01502 534021**

### Gas Fitting

**READERS ARE ADVISED**  
To check that anyone  
carrying out any Gas work  
is Gas Safe Registered.

It is an offence under the Gas  
Safety (Installation and Use)  
Regulations 1998 to carry out  
gas work in the UK without  
being on the Gas Safe Register.

## CLASSIFIEDS Tried & Tested...

**My Classified Sales Representative has done a professional job on my website to help my online presence and I would recommend them to any other local businesses.**

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Portway Fencing

For great business results call  
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**ClassifiedAds**  
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**KT HOUSE REMOVALS**  
13 years experience.  
SINGLE ITEMS TO FULL LOADS.  
LOCAL OR DISTANCE. FULLY INSURED.  
Free Quotes - Call Ric on:  
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house clearance. 07969 628382

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**AMBER TILING**  
Floors, Walls, Bathrooms  
No jobs too big or small  
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**07881 671441**

## t.v. / home entertainment

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**AERIAL AND TV SPECIALIST**  
Any TV Repairs. Digital aerials, sky,  
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Free quote/any area. 07850 330251.

## CLASSIFIEDS Tried & Tested...

**I have a newspaper advertising campaign in The Shropshire Star, The Express & Star and all the weekly titles, as well as an online directory, together it generates a generous response.**

**Bill -**  
TV Link

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## 4 Pets & Animals

### Guns & Dogs

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Advertisers must ensure that they  
meet all necessary legal require-  
ments for owning and using guns.  
**FWB SPORT** 124, cal 177, refinished  
stock, excellent condition, £320.  
07821 823308.

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**NOTICE TO READERS**  
Please be aware that when  
purchasing a puppy there are  
some simple guidelines you  
can follow to ensure that you  
are not purchasing from a  
Puppy Farmer:

1. Try to ensure you visit the puppy whilst it is still with it's Mother.
  2. Do not arrange to collect a puppy from any other location than that of the breeder.
  3. Ensure that you are given any KC documentation, if pedigree.
- Whilst Midland News Association publications take great care to avoid publication of advertisements from Puppy Farmers we cannot accept any liability should readers purchase from this kind of establishment.

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SELL LOCAL**  
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**ClassifiedAds**

## 6 Property

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Single En Suite Room £85 p.w.  
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Prices inclusive of Bills  
No DSS. 2 weeks deposit.  
**07940 116130**

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surroundings, £95pw. Call Nathan  
on 07715 683357.

**PEDEFORD, W-ton.** 3 bed  
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no DSS. £595pcm. 01902 781997.

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**FOR SALE**

### HOUSE FOR SALE

Terraced, 2 bedrooms,  
2 reception rooms, well  
presented, front and rear  
access, Dunstall Park Area.  
**£110,000**  
**07383 702874.**

**ALL THE ACTION EVERY MONDAY**



**THE ONLY READ FOR REAL FANS**

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**FINAL WHISTLE**

**Properties Wanted**

**WE PAY 100%** of purchase price  
**Cash for your house FAST** **EVERYTIME!**

If you agree the price, we buy the house....

- No agents fees
- Completion to suit you
- Free solicitors
- Any house, any condition

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Sell today, sign today, complete when u wish  
**£££ RENT BACK OPTIONS £££**  
**Houses / Land Required**  
We also buy Commercial Property  
Ring Paul 24/7 Local **07870 341 089**  
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Walsall & Cannock area: Call 01922 432049  
Wolverhampton: Call 01902 489901  
www.homecashbuyer.co.uk

**Yes! HOMEBUYERS**

**We will buy your house fast!**

Free Valuation? Yes! Any House? Yes!  
Fast Sale? Yes! Any Location? Yes!  
No Fees? Yes! Any Condition? Yes!

**FREE, GUARANTEED, instant offer today!**

Call **0121 663 1403**  
or text "Cash" to 66777  
yeshomebuyers.com

**IT'S FREE IT'S EASY**

\*Advertise any item  
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\*T&C's apply

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**7 Jobs**

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**CARLTON CARE GROUP**

**DEPUTY MANAGER**  
We are looking for a competent and professional person who has appropriate qualifications and at least three years' experience as a Senior Care Assistant.  
You should be capable of running the Home to a high standard, work well as a team member and have good literacy skills.

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We are looking for a qualified senior looking for a change in role, NVQ 3 required. Supporting staff in three privately run Care Homes. The role will be to help assist the managers within the Homes and visit hospitals and GP surgeries offering our services. A car will be provided or car allowance agreed, salary negotiable.

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Quick response telephone 0121 550 1272  
Lapal House, Lapal Lane South, Halesowen. B62 0ES  
Closing date Friday 2nd November 2018

**8 Motoring**

**Cars Over £1500**

**IMMACULATE**

**FORD FIESTA ST**  
2007, 63000 miles, Red, Custom Cat-back Exhaust, RamAir Filter, Lowered 35mm, Quantum Remap, TRC Front Splitter, abs, electric windows, 12 Month MOT, air conditioning, long service history, alarm, power steering, tax, alloys, leather interior  
**£3,500 ono**  
**07470676307**



**FORD FIESTA ZETEC 1.4**  
2009, 75000 miles, burgundy red, 12 months mot, electric mirrors, alarm, alloys, electric windows, heated front screen 12 months MOT, stereo, air bag, full service history, power steering, central locking, CD player  
**£3,250 ono**  
**07835818212**

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2010, 83,000 miles, FSH  
One owner from new, superb condition.  
**£3,495.**  
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**EXCELLENT CONDITION**

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**MUST BE SEEN**

**VAUXHALL ASTRA CLUB**  
1.3 CDTi, 58 reg, MoT'd, good condition.  
**£1,825 ono.**  
**07864 842076**



**JAGUAR S TYPE V8 SE AUTO**  
2004 (04), full service history, 99K, all MoT's, Sat Nav, leather, parrot etc, superb throughout, last proper Jaguar, next classic?  
**£2995**  
**07970 705466.**

**ONE OWNER**

**VAUXHALL ADAM JAM**  
Dec 2014, 14,800 miles, White, Urban Pack, rear parking sensors, boot liner, diamond bright paint protection, one lady owner, main dealer service history, full mot, immaculate  
**£5,495 ono**  
**01902 895696**



**VAUXHALL ZAFIRA 1.9 CDTi**  
2010, Silver, low mileage 60k, FSH, MOT June '19, top spec Elite, 6-speed, climate control, leather interior, heated seats, current owner last 5 years, recent tyres, family 7-seater car, excellent condition  
**£3,950 ono**  
**07709526629**

**Cars Under £1500**

**BARGAIN**

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2003, nice condition, needs indicator switch for MOT.  
**£500 ono**  
**01902 630572.**

**REAL BARGAIN!**

**FORD KA**  
1200cc, 2007, MoT, low miles, power steering, economical. Looks and drives great  
**£750**  
**07365 796477.**

**FULL SERVICE HISTORY**

**FORD STREET KA**  
Blue, 69000 miles. No tax, MoT expired July. Scratch on side, needs painting.  
Will need trailer to move.  
**£450 ono.**  
**07850 555467.**

**1ST TO SEE WILL BUY**

**MGZR 1.4**  
2005, owned from new, rarely used, low miles, regularly serviced, new MoT, extras.  
**Offers £895.**  
**07931 356797.**



**PEUGEOT 207 SPORT ESTATE HDi**  
1.6 diesel, 2009, 59 reg, blue, Sep 2019 mot, 118000 miles, average 50mpg, £30 per year tax, well looked after  
**£1,495 ono**  
**07796 761902.**

**SUZUKI LIANA**  
Silver, 1.6 GLX, 2007, 105,000 miles, MoT till March 2019.  
**£400 ono.**  
**07598 780472.**

**Classic Cars**

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## UK's top road rage phrases revealed

Road rage is something most motorists will have faced one time or another – and new research has revealed the phrases Brits are most likely to spout when seeing red behind the wheel.

The survey of 1,329 motorists across the UK by private number plate specialists Click4Reg has found that 'Go on then, move!' is the most popular choice of words by enraged drivers – with 72 per cent saying they have used the phrase.

Following just behind is 'Is the person in front dead?', with 70 per cent of respondents having said this at some point, while 'He's not even looking' rounded out the top three with 67 per cent.

Passive-aggressive statements also seem to be popular amongst road rage Brits – with 61 per cent of those surveyed having said 'You're welcome' in a sarcastic manner to another motorist.

It should be mentioned Click4Reg opted to omit suggestions with expletives in, which has likely skewed these results, but the data collected proves road rage is a common problem in the UK.

In fact, 78 per cent said they have at some point experienced a burst of anger behind the wheel — with 46 per cent of all saying they experience it on a daily basis.

Some prove to be far more aggressive than others when overcome with road rage though, with 66 per cent of respondents claiming to be reluctant to use their vehicle's horn – while the other 34 per cent identified as 'serial honkers'.

## X5 plug-in hybrid has 50-mile electric range



BMW's latest plug-in hybrid model will mate a new, larger petrol engine with an electric motor and provide up to 50 miles of zero-emission electric range.

Based on the latest X5 and catchily badged xDrive 45e iPerformance, the new model follows on from the xDrive40e iPerformance available on the previous-generation X5. Where that car used a 2.0-litre petrol engine, though, BMW decided that good things aren't always to be found in small packages and has replaced it with a 3.0-litre straight-six twin-turbocharged unit.

The petrol engine develops 282bhp on its own and is paired with a 110bhp electric motor for a total system output of 389bhp. That's enough to jettison the weighty X5 from 0-60mph in under 5.6 seconds – more than a second faster than its predecessor.

Electric range has increased, too. The 45e is capable of around three times more distance on electric power alone than its 40e predecessor, at 50 miles.

The car's top speed is 146mph, while maximum speed in electric mode is now 87mph rather than the 76mph of the 40e.

Power is put to the road through an eight-speed automatic gearbox and sent to all four wheels – as you'd hope on a chunky SUV such as this. Don't expect off-road performance to match a Range Rover, but BMW says the new X5 is far better on the rough stuff than its predecessor yet still retains 'sporty driving pleasure on the road'.

Carbon dioxide emissions dip below the crucial 50g/km – the threshold at which the X5 is classified as an ultra-low emissions car in some European markets. BMW claims fuel economy of 134.5mpg, although this is highly dependent on driving conditions and the length of the journey.

# Flagship V90 has effortless and refined performance

By John Griffiths

Volvo has unveiled a new and more powerful flagship for its premium V90 – and perhaps surprisingly it's petrol-powered.

The 2.0 litre, four cylinder unit is 'only' two litres but it's turbocharged, so its 250PS of power is complemented by 350 Newtonmetres of torque from just 1,800rpm.

Together, with an eight-speed auto transmission, it defines the car's character – effortless and refined performance befitting a premium executive express.

Named the T5, this new engine takes the power mantle from the petrol T4, with its 190Ps output, which continues as a mainstay of the range.

It's also a new option for the Swedish company's flagship XC90 SUV.

Where a few years ago diesel dominated – principally due to its overall economy and tax liabilities based on its generally lower CO2 ratings – the tide began to turn in favour of petrol three years ago or so.

### Dropped

Now, more petrol models than diesels are being sold and some manufacturers of smaller cars have dropped oil burners altogether.

The change was accelerated by the extra four per cent levy on diesel company cars which came into effect in April.

It's also down to the development of smaller, lighter petrol engines with turbocharging to emulate that lazy, torquey performance and greater economy almost reaching diesel levels.

Volvo itself dropped six cylinder engines some years ago, committing to a four pot only future (except for the new 1.5 litre three cylinder units).

The T5 powers the big V90 estate, for example, from a standstill to 62mph in 6.8 seconds yet is capable of averaging 41.5mpg – only a fraction less than the 190PS T4.

Although the T5 costs £3,000 more, model for model, the fact that its economy and CO2 figures (157g/km) are so close means the all important benefit-in-kind tax for business users is the same, and car tax is the basic £140.

The V90 test car was an R-Design costs from £45,850, around £6,000 less than the similarly powered D5 diesel, but that also has all wheel drive.

The T5-powered XC90 costs from £50,435 to £59,235. Its figures are 35.8mpg and 184g/km, while the 0 to 62mph dash takes 7.9 seconds – very competitive vital statistics for a large all-wheel drive car.

The T5 feels lively in both cars, but it's also very refined – running most on minimal revs and in virtual silence.

That's due to the power/torque combination, of course, and has all the luxury ambience of a larger capacity V8



of only a few years ago. The 'smaller is beautiful' theme continues with the car's dynamics, the smaller, largely aluminium engine being considerably lighter so that the V90 turns in and changes directions more sharply.

In spite of the R-Design model's lowered sports chassis the ride is impressively smooth and the driver can dial in eco, comfort, sport and individual driving modes.

Ride comfort is completed by the big, contoured leather sports seats in the front, with electrical adjustment and extendable cushions.

The rear has limousine-like leg and headroom, making the car comfortable for up to five adults while carrying 560 litres (and well over double that with the rear seats folded).

R-Design is the sportiest trim, with features such as sports pedals, high gloss black and metal mesh inlays.

Front LED foglights with cornering function to complement the active LED headlights.

Like the rest of the range, it has a central colour touchscreen controller as well as a configurable, 12.3-inch driver information display.

The touch screen, for audio, connectivity and navigation functions – even the dual zone climate control – is a model of clarity and probably one of the easiest and most intuitive to use.

It makes the cockpit clean and tidy, with no need for drivers to be searching among a plethora of buttons and switches.

The list of equipment on the V90 is a very long one indeed, beginning with the entry-level Momentum and either the sportily-themed R-Design or R-Design Pro or the rather more restrained luxury of the Inscription and Inscription Pro.

With the British market (to say nothing of others abroad) seeing a revival of petrol's fortunes in the premium car sector, Volvo needed the T4 and T5 engines for both the V90 and XC90.

The engineering with which it has achieved its goal is impressive: smaller and lighter than some of its six and eight cylinder rivals but with the high levels of refinement expected of an executive express.

As a result, the relative economy and emissions figures of both compared to class rivals, plus the ranges' price structure, mean the sort of comparative running costs and tax levels which might even make an accountant smile.

For the ultimate green machines in these two model ranges, there's also the T8 option – a petrol electric hybrid which cost more (from £59,250 for the V90, £66,070 for the XC90) but attract the lowest tax rates.

# Rare 1968 Ford Anglia is donated to museum

A rare 1968 Ford Anglia 123E Super has been donated to the British Motor Museum by Chris and Michael Gates.

The car, which is in fantastic condition with only 32,000 miles on the clock, has been in their family since new and was originally owned by Chris's grandmother. It is now located on the Time Road as part of the permanent collection to be enjoyed by thousands of visitors to the museum.

This more powerful version of the Anglia joined the range in 1962 and was known as the Anglia Super. The Super used a larger 1198cc (1200) version of the standard Anglia engine and enjoyed improved performance as a result. The new model also had a two-tone paint scheme which consisted of a side stripe and roof panel painted in a contrasting colour.

Other "extras" included full wheel trims, better interior trim, a new front grille and extra badges.

The Anglia Super lasted in production

with the basic models until the new Escort appeared in 1967.

Stephen Laing, curator, said: "We would like to thank Chris and Michael Gates for this very kind donation which guarantees the car's future and makes it available for everyone to enjoy.

"The Anglia is one of the favourite British family cars of the 1960s so I'm sure many of our visitors will connect with it. It was probably the first car I travelled in as my parents owned an Anglia when I was born!"

The British Motor Museum frequently get offered items of all shapes and sizes. However not every car offered to the museum is accepted, especially if its something similar or a duplicate. The museum has strict procedures about what it can accept to ensure the car is right for the collection and there is adequate space for it.

To find out more about the British Motor Museum visit [www.britishmotormuseum.co.uk](http://www.britishmotormuseum.co.uk) or call 01926 641188.





Joseph tries out the different shots



Is this the best way to hold the racket?



Think I'm getting the hang of this



Chris Dawson passes on a few tips to Joseph Masi

# Having a ball by hitting the wall

IT'S been described as the world's healthiest sport. But while there are more squash courts in England than any other country – 8,500 in fact – the amount of people playing the game is falling.

But thousands of players recently picked up their rackets to celebrate World Squash Day.

And Wolverhampton Lawn Tennis and Squash Club is doing everything it can to encourage people to take up the sport.

The club runs with the slogan 'Get healthy, play sport and make friends'. And coach Chris Dawson, who gave me my first squash lesson, believes the game is perfect for anyone looking to improve their health and fitness.

"The aim for us is to get more people to give squash a go – because we're confident once they do, they will take to it straight away," he said.

"It's a great game for fitness and I'd encourage anyone of an age to get involved because there are so many different sides to the game.

## Different

"There are a few simple rules. But there are so many different shots you can play.

"You can play with power and hit the ball hard and fast. But it's very easy to slow that down. Everyone can find their niche. It's all about controlling the ball, concentrating all the time and being one step ahead.

"It's like a game of chess, everyone has a weakness – it's about finding that."

With more than 1,000 members, Wolverhampton Lawn Tennis and Squash Club has a variety of ways people can get into the sport. Courts can be hired between friends, one-on-one lessons are available and there are also leagues for people looking for a competitive edge.

But it is the club's 'mixer' sessions that are ideal for newcomers, with players able to go up against different people while learning new skills.

"The great thing here is that there is always somebody who wants a game," Dawson continued. "We have over 1,000 members and there is something for everybody.

"You can book a court, have individual lessons and there are also internal leagues.

"Our mixer sessions are also popular and take place on a Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday and everybody is welcome. We normally have a group of around eight people turn up so we open four or five courts.

"You then play against each other but, often it won't just be

## SPORTING FEATURE

By Joseph Masi

***"The aim for us is to get more people to give squash a go – because we're confident once they do, they will take to it straight away,"***

a game. One of the coaches will set a certain routine to help you improve your game. In a game, all you think about is winning the rally. But if you're given a routine, you are trying to do something with the ball and it quickly helps you to improve."

While some people may find it daunting to walk into a squash club, Dawson – who recently moved down from Lancashire – says everyone is made to feel welcome in Wolverhampton.

"I have only been here about a month but everyone has been very friendly and very welcoming," he continued.

## Slower

"And here you can go at your own pace and make the game your own. The first step is to come down and try it and you can pick it up at any age.

"There are people here in their 80s playing squash. There is also racket ball, which is slower and has a bigger ball which bounces more and gives you more time.

"The important thing to remember is the game is all about movement. If your movement is right, if you can pick up just a few small things, the game isn't as tough as you think.

"It's all about making it efficient for yourself."

As well as encouraging older people to take up the sport, Wolverhampton Lawn Tennis and Squash Club also wants to see more youngsters playing the game.

The club runs coaching sessions for youngsters aged between five and 17. And Dawson is eager to get more through the door.

"As far as juniors go, on the tennis side – we've got quite a few, but on the squash side we're trying to build it up," he added. "We haven't got that many at the moment but we're hoping to change that."

To book call (01902) 755265 or email club@wiltsc.com  
More information can also be found at [www.wiltsc.com](http://www.wiltsc.com)

## Baggies Bomber now on board with BCB

'BAGGIES Bomber' Tommy Langford has joined the Black Country Boxing stable. The former British middleweight champion has signed a management contract with BCB Promotions and will work alongside trainer Tom Chaney.

Langford will step up to super middleweight as he plots a course back to boxing's big time in 2019. BCB's Errol Johnson said: "I'm delighted to bring Tommy to BCB. He had two absolute wars with Jason Welborn this year and showed, especially in that second fight, real heart and courage.

"He was a pleasure to deal with on both occasions and now he is stepping up in weight, we believe he can be a real force in the super middleweight division."

"I am happy to be signing with BCB and for Errol to be working alongside Tom Chaney to plot my course back to the top," said Langford.

"I know I can perform at championship level at super middleweight and I'm looking forward to the journey ahead."

## Women can get taste of American football

WOMEN are being urged to try their hand at American football with a series of taster sessions. Five-time British champions the Birmingham Lions are inviting females aged 17 or over to try out gridiron during at a rookie camp on the next two Saturdays, October 27 and November 3, at Avery Fields, on Sandon Road, from 9am-noon.

Created in 2014, the Lions were the first British women's club side to take on a European club abroad when they played French side Les Sparkles. They travelled to Finland in 2017 to take on national champions Helsinki Wolverines and in April 2018, they won the inaugural Diamond Bowl, Europe's first ever women's international tournament.

Club captain Jo Kilby said: "American Football is an incredibly empowering sport for women. Previous experience doesn't matter; in fact, many of our rookies last year had never played a contact sport in their lives."

For more about the team and rookie camps, see [facebook.com/BhamLionsW](https://facebook.com/BhamLionsW), Twitter (@BhamLionsWomen) and Instagram (@bhamlionswm)

## Gavin steps up title fight preparations

FRANKIE Gavin has stepped up preparation ahead of his European welterweight title clash with champion Kerman Lejerraga, travelling by boat to Bilbao for a pre-fight press conference.

Despite travelling the world as an amateur, a 'bad flight' led to a fear of planes for the 33 year-old, and he will again travel to the Basque country by boat during fight week.

"Everyone knows I don't like flying," said Gavin. "I had a bad flight and now I choose not to fly. I caught a train to Plymouth and jumped on the ferry to Santander then got picked up and brought to Bilbao."

Gavin is wary of his opponent's power. 'The Revolver', a Bilbao native, is unbeaten in 26 professional fights with 21 KOs to his name. "Kerman is a hard hitter," he added. "He's a tough lad and I know I'm up against it a bit. The atmosphere is intimidating but I'm prepared for that."

For tickets, at £50, visit <https://www.fgringsidegym.co.uk/#comp-iiswgd71>



## Bikes team end season on a high

BRIERLEY Hill-born Michael Rutter and his Black Country-based Bathams Racing team ended the 2018 National Superstock 1000 championship superbly at Brands Hatch as his team-mate Taylor Mackenzie claimed a brilliant win.

Rutter, who will also be back racing on the roads for the Macau GP in November, was able to join him on the podium after finishing third, despite missing the last two rounds.

The veteran, who will also be back racing on the roads for the Macau GP in November, said: "What a great way to finish the season, in race results at least, as it was lethal out there.

"It was so slippery and I could see people going down all around me so I ended up losing five to 10 seconds in the early stages as I'm not as brave as what I was 20 years ago.

Both riders started the 14-lap race well at the Kent track with Mackenzie grabbing an early lead and Rutter close behind in fourth.

With the entire 2.43-mile Grand Prix circuit extremely slippery, the duo had dropped back to fifth and sixth respectively by half race distance but on lap 10, 2016 champion Mackenzie – whose mother hails from Coseley – retook the lead with Rutter claiming third.

The results meant Mackenzie ended the campaign seventh in the table with Rutter 13th.

Storm Stacey was left cursing the bad weather as he missed out on second place in the British Motostar Moto 3 class by just five points.

## Blizzard storms to fast course finish in Great South Run

IT was another busy weekend for Dudley and Stourbridge Harriers. The youngsters kicked off with Luke Bailey, Cian Wood, and Rhys Lees travelling to Sutton Park for the West Midlands Cross Country trials at Sutton Park, representing Dudley.

Bailey finished fourth and will represent the West Midlands at Winsford in Cheshire on December 8. Lees and Wood were unlucky and narrowly missed out of the top 15, finishing 17th and 18th in a fast race with top quality opposition.

The senior men put two teams out at Aldersley Stadium in the Cross Country Relays. On Sunday Simon Blizzard travelled to Portsmouth for the Great South Run of 10 miles mainly along the coastline. Blizzard was not far off a course PB, finishing in 1:06:45.

Shaun Osborne, Tom Isherwood and Lorna Hulme took on Stroud Half Marathon on a relatively flat course. Osborne set a new distance PB with a 14th place finish in 01:16:06. Isherwood pulled up early on with an injury but still managed to finish in 01:30:16. Hulme crossed the line as 25th female in a time of 01:37:40.

## Guisseboys cup run comes to an end

### Guisseley 3 Stourbridge 1

FA CUP giantkillers Stourbridge bowed out of this season's competition at the final qualification hurdle after suffering defeat in West Yorkshire.

Having already removed National League North sides Leamington and Kidderminster Harriers from this season's Cup, the Glassboys found Guisseley a step too far. Stourbridge fell behind on 19 minutes when central defender Will Thornton was left unmarked from an Alex Purver free-kick to head home beyond the reach of goalkeeper

James Wren. Stourbridge hit back to level four minutes later as Stuart Pierpoint flicked Jordan Brown's cross towards striker Luke Benbow who, with his back to goal, unleashed an acrobatic overhead kick that flew into the net, leaving Guisseley goalie Joe Green rooted to the spot.

An absorbing contest followed with little to choose between both sides but the tie was ultimately decided on a mistake. Stourbridge central defender Paul McCone allowed a long range punt upfield from Green to bounce in front of him, en-

abling former Barnsley favourite Kayode Odejayi to get goal-side and square the ball across the face of goal for substitute Lewis Walters to slot home after 76 minutes.

Before Stourbridge could recompose themselves, Guisseley grabbed a third goal four minutes later.

One-time York City player Kaine Felix shook off two defenders before firing past Wren.

Glassboys visit Kettering on Saturday in the first qualifying round of the FA Trophy.

# WONDER GOAL DENIES YELTZ

### Halesowen Town 1 Needham Market 1

**HALESOWEN** had to settle for a draw after a goal from Lee Hughes was cancelled out by a stunner from Needham Market's Reece Dobson.

Manager John Hill was left with mixed feelings. "After taking a deserved lead, we had a great chance to make it 2-0 and wrap up the game.

"But, despite being disappointed not to take all three points, it's important to remember that we still remain unbeaten at home in the league."

Home captain Danny Bragoli's low shot was collected by visiting goalkeeper Jake Jessup after five minutes but the visitors soon settled and young home goalkeeper Cameron Gregory saved Gareth Heath's low shot after Luke Ingram flicked on with a 13th minute header.

### Flick

Needham playmaker Heath went close with a clever back flick at the start of the second half and the same player's long free-kick was pushed away by Gregory.

Hughes gave Halesowen the lead in the 58th minute with a calm, controlled finish in front of a crowded goal from substitute Tobias Hayles-Docherty's right wing cross. The hosts had their chances to secure the win when Jessup saved with his legs from James Roberts, who also fired over in the 69th minute.

Yeltz paid the price as the Marketmen spectacularly equalised in the 76th minute, substitute Dobson flicking the ball up and volleying home from eight yards.

Halesowen are in FA Trophy first qualifying round action as they travel to Grantham on Saturday. The club has confirmed that first team coach Richard Sneekes and Jordan Goddard have left the club.

Richard Sneekes joined in January. Jordan Goddard has proved popular with the fans since returning from Leamington but has chosen to seek a new challenge.

## Medals joy for war hero Dave



Dave Watson joins in the celebrations as athletes bring home the medals for Team UK

A BLACK COUNTRY war hero is among a group of athletes bringing home the medals for Team UK.

Dave Watson, who lives in Halesowen, has won two silver medals at the Invictus Games in Sydney, in the IR1 one-minute sprint race and four-minute endurance race for rowing.

The 32-year-old, originally from Preston, is taking part in his second games, and competing in rowing for the first time, after bringing home the gold in the discus and the bronze in the shotput at last year's games in Toronto.

The returning champion is still competing

in the discus and shotput at this year's games, but decided to add rowing to his roster and quest for medals. He is also a professional discus and shotput thrower and is aiming for the Paralympics in the future.

### Hidden

Dave was injured during a tour of Afghanistan in 2010, serving for the Scots Guards, when he stood on a hidden IED. He lost both of his legs and most of his right arm and was medically discharged from the army in 2014, after joining them in 2008.

## Heartbreak as Sykes is forced out

STOURBRIDGE'S Richard Sykes suffered heartbreak on the Wales Rally GB event when he was forced to retire whilst heading for a top five position.

It was Sykes' second race driving the Mitsubishi Evo 9. Following a bad start to the year with three mechanical retirements in his Citroen DS3 Sykes opted to buy the four-wheel drive machine. But its engine blew up on its first event.

"We entered the Wales Rally GB event and had high hopes of a good finish with a new car and another new engine," said Skykes. "We were seeded quite low which meant we caught the car in front on the first stage even though it was only five miles long.

"Despite this we were fourth overall and only 0.6 seconds behind the new Hyundai R5 of John Wink."

The second stage was 18 miles and Sykes had targeted this as one to push very hard on to get up the leaderboard. However, it didn't go to plan.

"Once again we caught the car in front after less than five miles. He saw us and pulled over but then we caught another car and were stuck behind him for eight miles. We lost around 90 seconds.

"I was very angry at the situation and wasn't in the best frame of mind for the next stage. I set off like a bull in a china shop and I put the car off the road on a very slippery corner. The screen was damaged and we couldn't get a replacement which meant we were out."

Sykes has entered the Grizedale Stages on December 8.

## Ball's aiming to be in seventh heaven

DANNY Ball hopes to be in seventh heaven as he steps into the ring at Wallall Town Hall this weekend.

It will be the 22-year-old Kingswinford fighter's seventh outing since turning professional last summer. The former white collar star takes on evergreen Kevin McCauley on Saturday on BCB Promotions' Halloween show called 'Things That Go Bump in the Night.'

Also on the bill are English bantamweight champion Kyle Williams, Central Area heavyweight champion Kash Ali, Tivdale's Ryan 'Stewart' Davies, Burntwood's Trol Coleman and Ball's gymmate Connor Lee Jones.

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# Fantastic news for all home owners

# COUSINS' MULTI

# £MILLION

# CLEARANCE EVENT

Their Biggest Ever  
**CLEARANCE  
EVENT**

starts on Friday at 10am –  
offering the General Public a fantastic  
opportunity to save up to 70% on a  
massive range of furniture, carpets,  
beds and homewares.

Exciting new developments, plus significant investment and restructuring mean that Cousins Furniture need to clear millions of pounds worth of stock from their warehouses and showrooms with immediate effect.

**For 3 Days, this Friday, Saturday & Sunday**

**COUSINS have been closed all week, because staff have been working around the clock handling vast quantities of incoming stock from their suppliers & warehouses, including the leading brands.**

Consignments will continue to arrive daily and all price tickets have been reduced to a fraction of the normal price for this Massive Clearance Event.

#### FANTASTIC OPPORTUNITIES

After a long hot Summer and a year of Brexit uncertainty, it's been well documented that High Street sales are suffering.

As a result, many of Cousins' suppliers, including the leading brands, are simply overstocked.

This has allowed Cousins to bulk purchase enormous volumes of stock and negotiate fantastic short-term discounts from many of their suppliers. They're now able to offer the buying public a phenomenal opportunity to purchase quality furniture at unbelievable discounted prices.

Coupled with the unknown impact of the impending Brexit deal or no deal and whether this will lead to unprecedented price increases on the High Street, there's never been a better time to buy.

These tremendous deals apply to both stock and special orders.

#### FANTASTIC STOCK DEALS

Furthermore, as a member of the prestigious "Associated Independent Stores" Buying Group, Cousins have used their combined purchasing power to obtain some fantastic stock deals on accessories, homewares and carpets.

#### LEADING BRANDS

In store, Cousins are continuing to enhance the overall customer experience with the introduction of new Brand Galleries, including market leading upholstery manufacturers Collins and Hayes.

"Our customers are investing in both quality and brand assurance. People are becoming more adventurous in the styles that they're purchasing" said John Shotton, Managing Director.

#### EXCITING DEVELOPMENTS

With this in mind, Cousins will be introducing many new Collections for 2019, including an on-trend Urban Living department plus a comprehensive Ergo Comfort Gallery.

Based on public demand, they've worked closely with some innovative designers to develop ranges of furniture that will offer unprecedented comfort and support, including adjustable lumbar supports and headrests, plus the use of pressure relieving memory foam.

Urban Living has evolved from today's Instagram driven society, with the need

to make a bold interior statement using designer styling, pops of colour plus that cutting-edge accessory.

Whether it's Scandi chic, mid-century modernity or retro deep-buttoning Cousins will have it.

#### CONTINUED SUCCESS & EXPANSION

Cousins are also further extending their unique "Bespoke Upholstery" departments, which enable consumers to solve any seating dilemma they may have.

Whether it's design, dimensions, comfort levels or fabric covering, a customer can design a sofa, chair or corner group to exactly match their needs.

This is a service that isn't generally available on the High Street and certainly meets a significant demand.

#### WAREHOUSE RESTRUCTURING

Both online and offline, Cousins' will be continuing to improve the shopping experience.

The recent opening of a new fully responsive website, has resulted in a significant uplift in sales, together with increased consumer demand for immediate delivery, meaning that they need much more storage capacity in their warehouses.

So, a comprehensive restructuring programme of both their facilities and systems is about to commence.

#### STOCK ARRIVING DAILY – EVERYTHING MUST GO

This tremendous pressure for space, with the need to clear stock from suppliers and their warehouses plus the need to create space in-store mean that consignments will continue to arrive daily, and be marked down to prices for immediate Clearance and delivery.

"We need to clear this stock as soon as possible with everything available for immediate delivery. It really is a case of everything must go" said John Shotton.

"We are delighted to offer our customers more choice than ever before.

These are some of the biggest saving

we have ever offered and expect people to take full advantage".

#### MADE TO ORDER

Cousins have even dramatically reduced all made to order items, so you can choose exactly what size or colours suit your home. Their expert team of sales people will be on hand to ensure you make the right decision at the best price.

"We are expecting this to be our busiest event of the year from the minute the doors open. With many one-off bargains and unrepeatable deals it really will be a case of first come first served" said John Shotton, Managing Director.



**DOORS OPEN FRIDAY 10am SHARP!**

# COUSINS FURNITURE, CARPETS & HOME ACCESSORIES MULTI £MILLION CASH OFF THIS FRIDAY, SATURDAY AND SUNDAY - EVERYTHING REDUCED!

**ORDER NOW FOR CHRISTMAS DELIVERY**  
**EVERYTHING REDUCED!**

Doors open 10am Friday, be early for the best buys, there are many never to be repeated ONE OFF bargains. If you are seriously thinking of buying any item of furniture, carpets, beds or home accessories at the lowest possible prices then you must visit Cousins this Friday, Saturday or Sunday!

**THERE WILL ALSO BE BIG DISCOUNTS OFF ALL SPECIAL MADE TO ORDER ITEMS!**



## LIVING ROOM:

<b>GPLAN - NEWTON</b> 3 seater sofa + power chair	<del>£3304</del> <b>£995</b>
<b>NATUZZI EDITIONS - JENA</b> Modern leather swivel chair	<del>£1129</del> <b>£467</b>
<b>STRESSLESS - EX DISPLAY STOCK</b> Leather swivel recliners & sofas	<b>SAVE AT LEAST 60%</b>
<b>PARKER KNOLL - BURGHLEY</b> Large 2 seater sofa and chair	<del>£2999</del> <b>£1284</b>
<b>BUOYANT - STARCK</b> 2 seater sofa and storage footstool	<del>£1129</del> <b>£372</b>
<b>DURESTA - HOLMES</b> 2 seater sofa and matching chair	<del>£6309</del> <b>£1649</b>
<b>FOOTSTOOLS</b> Assorted designs, finishes and colours	<b>FROM £39</b>

## BEDROOM:

<b>WILLIS AND GAMBIER</b> Ivory painted 2 door wardrobe	<del>£1449</del> <b>£678</b>
<b>BAKER - COTSWOLD</b> Rustic 6 drawer tall chest	<del>£379</del> <b>£146</b>
<b>NOLTE - EX DISPLAYS</b> Contemporary bedrooms	<b>SAVE 60%</b>

## BEDS:

<b>MYERS - KELMSCOTT</b> King size 2 drawer divan	<del>£699</del> <b>£333</b>
<b>OSLO</b> Fabric double bedstead	<del>£529</del> <b>£198</b>
<b>WHITE LABEL MATTRESSES</b> Limited stocks	<b>FROM £99</b>

**SAVE UP TO 70%** - Furnish your home at phenomenally low prices - large stocks available for immediate delivery.  
**LEADING BRAND NAMES ALL REDUCED, EVERY SINGLE STOCK ITEM MUST GO!**

**BE EARLY FOR THE BEST BARGAINS! ALL STOCK MUST BE CLEARED - SOME AT COST OR EVEN LESS!**

# PETS, BEDS & HOMEWARES CLEARANCE EVENT

## EVERYTHING REDUCED, EVERYTHING MUST GO

### CLEARANCE OPENING TIMES:

Fri 10am - 6pm  
Sat 9.30am - 6pm  
Sun 11am - 5pm

SAVE  
UP TO  
70%

**Birmingham** Warwick Road, Tyseley B11 2EW  
T: 0121 765 3300

**Dudley** Hall Street, DY2 8NW  
T: 01384 451500



### DINING ROOM:

ERCOL - ROMANA Oak coffee table	£819	£296
DINING CHAIRS TO CLEAR Assorted styles and finishes	FROM	£10
LATINA - WHITE High gloss extending table and 6 chairs	£1499	£648
WILLIS AND GAMBIER Reclaimed timber 3 drawer/1 door sideboard	£899	£365
HALO - ALSTI Oak nest of tables	£379	£144
TUCSON Marble and chrome dining table & 6 chairs	£1999	£772
ALFRANK High gloss with marble 4 door sideboard	£1299	£488

### FLOORING:

AXMINSTER Glenavy 100% wool carpet	£79m <sup>2</sup>	£38m <sup>2</sup>
COLUMBIA TWIST Stain resistant carpet. Good selection of colours	£12m <sup>2</sup>	£5.85m <sup>2</sup>
RUGS TO CLEAR Assorted designs, sizes and colours	FROM	£29

### HOMEWARES:

DENBY - DINNER SETS - WHILE STOCKS LAST! All existing stock must be cleared	SAVE	60%
SCATTER CUSHIONS Assorted designs and colours	FROM	£4
JOSEPH JOSEPH Kitchenware stock must be cleared!	SAVE	35%

Birmingham | Dudley | Manchester  
[cousinsfurniture.co.uk](http://cousinsfurniture.co.uk)

Cousins

THERE WILL ALSO BE BIG DISCOUNTS OFF ALL SPECIAL MADE TO ORDER ITEMS!

THIS FRIDAY, SATURDAY AND SUNDAY

**EVERYTHING  
REDUCED!**

**MULTI £MILLION  
CLEARANCE EVENT**

**EVERYTHING  
MUST GO!**

THERE ARE ALSO MASSIVE DISCOUNTS  
ON ALL MADE TO ORDER ITEMS

We can't  
be beaten  
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